FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 85 *2 May 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian Consultations Reported	A 1	1/A7
SNA: Statement To Be Issued on Palestinian Unity	A 1	1/A7
'Arafat Receives Letter From Yugoslav Leaders [VOP]	A 1	1/A7
Kuwaiti Paper: Foreign Operations Branch May Rejoin PFLP	A 2	1/A8
PPLP's Habash Makes Statement in Tripoli	A 2	1/A8
OPEC Secretary on Attitude of Industrial States	A 2	1/A8
OAPEC Secretary Says Oil Prices Unsatisfactory	A 3	1/A9

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Tunisian Presidential Adviser Arrives in Bahrain	C 1	1/A10
Meets With Officials	C 1	1/A10
Heir Apparent Receives Saudi Industry Minister	C 1	1/A10

KUWAIT

'Senior' Official Discusses Situation in Lebanon	C 2	1/A11
Amir Receives Message From Egyptian President	C 2	1/A11

OMAN

Sultan Supports As-Sadat, Assails Communist Role in Africa	C 2	1/A11

QATAR

Consultative Council Term Extended 4 Years	C 3	1/A12
Kuwaiti AL-ANBA': New Qatari Government To Be Formed	C 3	1/A12

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Commentary Views Carter Statements on Middle East	C 3	1/A12
King Khalid Leaves for Geneva for Medical Tests	C 4	1/A13
UAE Interior Minister Arrives on Official Visit	C 5	1/A14
Meets With King Khalid	C 5	1/A14
Comments on Talks	C 5	1/A14

PDRY

Prime Minister Hasani Visits North Korea, Vietnam [cross-reference]	C 5	1/A14

YAR

Sanaa Reports Carter Cable to Al-Ghashmi	C 6	1/B1
Al-Ghashmi Reply	C 6	1/B1

EGYPT

Kamil Receives Clarifications on Carter Interview	D 1	1/B2
Voice of Arabs Comment	D 1	1/B2
Cairo Radio on Interview	D 2	1/B3
Further Cairo Radio Comment	D 4	1/B5
AL-AHRAM Comment	D 5	1/B6
As-Sadat Cables Carter, Torrijos on Panama Agreement	D 5	1/B6
As-Sadat To Resume Visits to Governorates in June	D 6	1/B7
OCTOBER Magazine Editor on Internal Situation	D 6	1/B7
AL-AHALI: Opposition Demands Right To Oppose [26 Apr]	D 7	1/B8
Somali President Barre To Visit 7 May	D 8	1/B9
ROSE AL-YUSUF: Tito To Visit 'in Next Few Months'	D 8	1/B9
Kamil Accepts Invitation To Visit Finland	D 8	1/B9
Polish Trade Talks Begin in Cairo	D 9	1/B10
Studies on Disarmament To Be Presented to UNGA	D 9	1/B10
Nuclear Science Conference Issues Recommendations	D 9	1/B10
DPA Reports Large Fire in Egyptian Oilfield	D 10	1/B11
Passengers Injured in Train Collision	D 10	1/B11

IRAQ

ATH-THAWRAH Comments on Oil-Pricing System [25 Apr]	E 1	1/B12
Information Minister Meets With Spanish Official	E 2	1/B13
Iraqi Vice President Ma'ruf Arrives in Madrid	E 2	1/B13
Holds Talks	E 3	1/B14
Leaves for Cuba	E 3	1/B14
Joint Statement Issued	E 3	1/B14
Vice President Ma'ruf Begins Official Visit to Cuba	E 3	1/B14
Foreign Minister Meets With Spanish Counterpart	E 3	1/B14
Iraqi, Spanish Officials Conclude Talks in Madrid	E 4	1/C1
Briefs: Hungarian Education Official's Visit	E 4	1/C1

JORDAN

AL-AKHBAR Comments on 'U.S. President's Retreat' [1 May]	F 1	1/C2
Journalist Calls for UN Forces on Jordanian Borders [Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 27 Apr]	F 1	1/C2

LEBANON

Beirut Radio: Cabinet Formation May Take Time	G 1	1/C5
MENA Comments	G 1	1/C5
Sham'un Statement [Voice of Lebanon]	G 2	1/C6
Phalangist Leader Al-Jumayyil Returns From Damascus [Voice of Lebanon]	G 3	1/C7
French UN Forces Kill Two in Southern Lebanon	G 3	1/C7
INA Reports Clashes Between Deterrent Forces, Palestinian Resistance	G 3	1/C7

SYRIA

Lebanese Phalangist Leader Received by President	H 1	1/C8
Returns to Beirut	H 1	1/C8
Syria Celebrates Labor Day With Speech Rally	H 2	1/C9
President Receives Swedish Communications Minister	H 3	1/C10

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Addresses National Assembly Session I 1 1/C11
Discusses Foreign Policy I 2 1/C12
GDR Minister of Defense Leads Military Delegation to Algeria I 2 1/C12
Rhodesian ANC Leader Begins 3-Day Visit I 3 1/C13

LIBYA

Sao Tome and Principe President Arrives on Official Visit I 3 1/C13
Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi I 3 1/C13
Jallud Banquet Speech I 3 1/C13
FROLINAT Leader Denies Violating Sabha Agreement I 4 1/C14

ISRAEL

Begin Interviewed on U.S. Visit, Dayan Talks N 1 1/D1
Begin Comments on Talks With Carter, Vance Reported N 1 1/D1
Activities in U.S. Reported N 2 1/D2
Dayan Returns Home, Discusses Political Issues N 3 1/D3
Further Report on Remarks N 3 1/D3
HA'ARETZ Discusses Liberal Party Internal Split [30 Apr] N 4 1/D4
Weizman Meets With Siilasvuo, Promises Withdrawal N 5 1/D5
Terrorists Will Not Release Israeli Soldier N 6 1/D6
Waldheim To Be Asked To Gain Prisoner's Release N 6 1/D6
Terrorists Refuse Entry to Christians in S. Lebanon [POST 30 Apr] N 6 1/D6
IDF Major Reprimanded for Mishandling W. Bank Incident N 7 1/D7
Military Command Denies Jordanian Report on W. Bank N 7 1/D7

IRAN

Joint Statement Issued on Khal'atbari's Morocco Visit R 1 1/D8
Amuzegar Receives Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister R 1 1/D8
Trade Agreement Signed With United Arab Emirates R 1 1/D8

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Afgan Revolutionary Council Appoints Cabinet S 1 1/D9
Kabul Radio Reports Banks Reopen, Traffic Normal S 1 1/D9
Commentary on Importance of May Day Under New Regime S 2 1/D10
AFP Correspondent Reports on Conditions in Kabul S 3 1/D11
Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Recognized S 4 1/D12
Bulgarian Recognition S 4 1/D12
Indian Recognition S 4 1/D12
Kabul Reports New Governor of Nangarhar Province S 5 1/D13
New Military Commander Takes Office in Herat S 5 1/D13
Ghazni Governor Takes Up Office; Delivers Speech S 5 1/D13
Teheran: Tribes Reportedly Begin Resistance Movement S 5 1/D13

BANGLADESH

Increase in Burmese Moslem Refugees Reported S 6 1/D14
Burmese Forces Open Fire on Bangladesh Refugee Camps S 6 1/D14
Zia To Head Six-Party Political Front in Upcoming Election S 6 1/D14
Delhi: Opposition Groups Discuss Election Candidate S 6 1/D14

INDIA

Delhi Commentary Welcomes Carter's Decision on Uranium S 7 1/E1
Desai Meets U.S., USSR, UK Envoys on Afgan Situation S 8 1/E2
Delhi Denies Report on Afgan Coup Leader's Visit S 8 1/E2

PAKISTAN

Agha Shahi Discusses Kashmir Dispute at Dakar Conference S 8 1/E2

BRIEFS

Ambassador to Japan S 8 1/E2

MAY 7 1978

PREX7.10:FBIS-MEA-78-85

FBIS-MEA-78-85
Tuesday
2 May 1978
Vol V No 85

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

59

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

LEBANESE-PALESTINIAN-SYRIAN CONSULTATIONS REPORTED

NC291120Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0838 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Doha, 29 April--The Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB today quotes reliably informed Lebanese sources as saying that high-level Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian consultations are taking place to find an outlet to the present tension in Lebanon following the declaration of the Lebanese parliamentary formula, which is subject to different interpretations.

These sources said that the consultations are dealing with the possibility of freezing or amending this formula until Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis visits Syria this week to discuss this formula and Lebanon's official attitude toward it.

The sources said PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will probably take part in discussions between Sarkis and Syrian President al-Asad. The sources add that this is almost certain because it will then be possible to discuss various aspects of Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

The same sources affirmed that Damascus might have certain views on amending the formula in order to be consistent with the Palestinian stance and to regulate Lebanese-Palestinian relations and the armed Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

Quoting the same sources, the paper notes that Syria's current contacts with various Lebanese political leaders are connected with the question of freezing the formula. The paper says that a delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement will have discussions in Syria in the next few days and that a number of independent Lebanese leaders will visit Damascus for the same purpose.

SNA: STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED ON PALESTINIAN UNITY

JN291628Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 29 April--Informed Palestinian sources in the Lebanese capital said today that the Central Command of the Palestine Liberation Organization-Fatah [as received] will shortly issue an important statement reiterating the unity of Palestinian ranks particularly after the recent reports on differences among prominent leaders in the PLO. The sources said that the statement comes after intensive discussions by the Central Command over the past 3 days and will also affirm the stand of the organization on the Arab and international issues in general, and on the Lebanese problem in particular.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES LETTER FROM YUGOSLAV LEADERS

JN291702Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, this morning received the Yugoslav ambassador to Lebanon.

The radio correspondent has learned that the Yugoslav ambassador conveyed to brother Abu 'Ammar a letter from the Yugoslav leaders on the latest developments in the region.

KUWAITI PAPER: FOREIGN OPERATIONS BRANCH MAY REJOIN PFLP

NC0108585Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 1 May--The Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH today reports that the group of the late Wadi' Haddad--known as the Palestinian foreign operations branch--is expected to merge with the PFLP, led by Dr George Habash, under a new agreement on the usefulness of foreign operations in the next phase.

The paper says that the agreement was arrived at after contacts between the two sides and, therefore, the possibility of a return to the hijacking of planes is expected to increase.

The paper notes that the foreign operations branch had split from the front when the latter abandoned the hijacking of planes.

PFLP'S HABASH MAKES STATEMENT IN TRIPOLI

LD3020505Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Brother George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, arrived at Tripoli airport this evening. He was met by a number of officials of the Arab liaison office and by the PLO representative in Tripoli.

Brother George Habash made a statement to JANA in which he condemned the Zionist front against the Lebanese people and the Palestinian revolution. Imperialism and its tools --Zionism and Arab reaction--seek the complete annihilation of the Palestinian revolution within the framework of the plan which has as its target the progressive forces in the Arab region, he added.

He stressed the need for the Great 1 September Revolution and the Palestinian revolution to stand up to such plans, which seek to harm the Arab revolution and its just struggle.

OPEC SECRETARY ON ATTITUDE OF INDUSTRIAL STATES

JN0220942Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0850 GMT 2 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 2 May--OPEC Secretary General Mohamed Gida has accused the industrial states of "thinking with the mentality of imperialism when they accuse the oil countries of being greedy." In a press statement published in Kuwait today, Gida explained that the OPEC member states cannot be considered rich, because their combined income is less than 7 percent of the national income of the United States and almost equal to the national income of one European state--Italy.

Gida also explained that the OPEC member countries have a combined population of 300 million. Therefore, their average per capita income is considered low compared to the average income in other countries.

Gida said that the oil countries are producing more than they really should, taking into consideration the absorbtion capacity of their economies. Thus, they are serving world progress at the expense of their own interests. The organization has so far failed to reach a common agreement on regulating production, Gida added.

Speaking about alternative sources of energy, Gida said that he does not expect these alternative sources to play any major role before the end of this century, which means there will be an increase in oil prices.

Gida left Kuwait yesterday for Doha in the course of a tour of several states in the area.

OAPEC SECRETARY SAYS OIL PRICES UNSATISFACTORY

NC0111l6Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 1 May--Dr 'Ali 'Atiqah, secretary general of OAPEC, has said that oil prices are unsatisfactory and unsuitable, in view of the constant fall in the value of the U.S. dollar.

In a statement he made following his return to Kuwait from Caracas last night, Dr 'Atiqah expressed the hope that the OPEC ministerial conference due to convene in At-Ta'if on Saturday will find a suitable solution.

Dr 'Atiqah visited Venezuela for 1 week, during which he had talks with officials there on strengthening the cooperation between OAPEC and Venezuela, particularly in the field of exchanging information on oil exploration and marketing.

BAHRAIN

TUNISIAN PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ARRIVES IN BAHRAIN

JN3016347 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 30 April--Habib Bourguiba Jr, private adviser to the Tunisian president, arrived here this afternoon on a 4-day visit to Bahrain as part of his tour of the states in the region. He was received at the airport by Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY following his arrival, Habib Bourguiba Jr said that his visit to Bahrain comes at the instructions of President Habib Bourguiba and is intended to explain to Bahraini officials the regrettable incidents which recently took place in Tunisia.

He added that he had also come to offer thanks and gratitude to the Bahraini amir, government and people for their support for the Tunisian regime, support which was evident during the crisis Tunisia witnessed in the past few months.

Habib Bourguiba Jr is accompanied on his visit to Bahrain by Ammar Souidi, Tunisian nonresident ambassador to Bahrain.

Meets With Officials

JN0116017 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 May 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 1 May--His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, deputy amir of Bahrain, and His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister of Bahrain, today received Habib Bourguiba Jr, private adviser to the Tunisian president, on the occasion of his current visit to the State of Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid, minister of state for cabinet affairs, and Ammar Souidi, Tunisian nonresident ambassador to Bahrain.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY following the meeting, Habib Bourguiba Jr said that he had conveyed to his highness the deputy amir of Bahrain and to the prime minister a letter from President Habib Bourguiba concerning bilateral relations and the regrettable incidents which Tunisia recently experienced. He added that during the cordial anf fraternal meeting with their highnesses, he conveyed the thanks of the Tunisian Government for the understanding demonstrated by Bahrain during the temporary crisis in Tunisia.

Habib Bourguiba Jr arrived in Manama yesterday, Sunday, from Doha as part of his current tour of the states of the region.

HEIR APPARENT RECEIVES SAUDI INDUSTRY MINISTER

JN2808307 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0805 GMT 28 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 28 April--His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent, this morning received Dr Ghazi 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qusaybi, Saudi minister of industry and electricity. During the meeting, the Saudi minister conveyed the greetings of Saudi monarch King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The Saudi minister of industry and electricity left Manama for London today following a 2-day visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

'SENIOR' OFFICIAL DISCUSSES SITUATION IN LEBANON

NC2915252 Doha QNA in Arabic 1127 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 29 April--A senior Kuwaiti official has confirmed that there is coordination at the highest level among Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the states which attended the recent Arab League Council meeting in Cairo for convening an Arab summit conference.

In a statement published today in the weekly newspaper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALDI, the official said: We know that we will encounter difficulties, but we will not stay idle. We will be frank because distortion of facts is futile. The Kuwaiti official, whom the paper did not identify, called for an end to Arab disputes, which should not be allowed to sacrifice the Arab nation's interests. He added: All that is happening is due to personal differences. We must not behave as spectators and see parts of the Arab homeland falling one after the other as though the matter was of no concern to us.

Speaking about the situation in Lebanon, the Kuwaiti official said that Lebanon must stand on its feet, as it has suffered enough.

The Kuwaiti official revealed that when the question of renewing the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces was discussed at the recent meeting of the Arab League Council, Kuwait's view was that no foreign forces could safeguard the internal or external security of a country. He added that when Kuwait said it was against the renewal of the mandate it did not mean to avoid paying its commitment to these forces. Kuwait had paid and will continue to pay, for the sake of a fraternal country passing through difficulties. However, it asks this fraternal country to stand on its feet and secure its own protection.

The official said that Kuwait later agreed to the extension of the Arab Deterrent Forces' mandate as the only option, hoping that this would be temporary. The Kuwaiti official affirmed his country's readiness to finance the Lebanese army if the army dispenses with all foreign or Arab forces deployment.

AMIR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT

NC2911112 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1037 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 29 April--Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, the amir of Kuwait, today received a written message from President Anwar as-Sadat. The message concerns the latest developments in the Egyptian moves for achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and relations between the two countries. The message was handed to the amir this morning by Egyptian Ambassador to Kuwait Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raziq.

OMAN

SULTAN SUPPORTS AS-SADAT, ASSAILS COMMUNIST ROLE IN AFRICA

JN2920042 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1950 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Muscat, 29 April--Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has expressed his country's support for President as-Sadat's initiative and called on all peace-loving forces to support this initiative.

In a statement to the London-based newspaper AL-MANAR broadcast by Muscat radio, the sultan said that the Somali-Ethiopian war began as a struggle by the western Somali people to free themselves from Ethiopian rule. However, the communist states interfered to further their colonialist ambitions. The sultan warned that unless a firm stand is taken against the communist interference in the Horn of Africa, millions of free people will be threatened with slavery.

The Omani sultan reviewed the current efforts to rebuild the southern region in Oman and to implement the 5-year plan which will lay the foundation for a sound economy, and which will diversify and exploit our natural resources.

QATAR

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL TERM EXTENDED 4 YEARS

NC290910Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Doha, 29 April--His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani, the amir of Qatar, today issued a decree extending the term of the Consultative Council another 4 years. The decree is effective the day after the expiration of the present term on 1 May 1978.

KUWAITI AL-ANBA': NEW QATARI GOVERNMENT TO BE FORMED

NC301103Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 30 April--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today reports that consultations are currently being held for the formation of a new government in Qatar under the premiership of Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani, the minister of foreign affairs.

The paper says that Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani, who is nominated to head the new cabinet, will retain his present post as minister of foreign affairs. The paper says that a new minister of state for foreign affairs will be appointed.

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI COMMENTARY VIEWS CARTER STATEMENTS ON MIDDLE EAST

LD011416Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Today Menahem Begin, prime minister of the Israeli enemy, is holding talks with U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The talks are described as critical and aimed at injecting life into the peace talks between Egypt and Israel. Those talks are now at a standstill because of Israeli obdurateness.

The talks come in the wake of the confrontation between President Carter and Begin over a month ago, when they differed over principal issues which led to the halting of the talks. These included Israel's withdrawal from the occupied West Bank and the position of the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

It seems the Zionist information media and those riding their bandwagon sought to impart to Begin's U.S. visit a halo of propaganda and to inflate its importance in order to focus attention on the visit. An American [as heard] paper has published statements attributed to U.S. President Carter, saying that he believes that no permanent solution in the Middle East will include the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank occupied by Israel since 1967. According to the paper, Carter says that he has never supported the idea of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and that he has no intention of changing his position. The paper also says that President Carter points out that he believes a lasting settlement in the area can be based on the proposed self-rule in the West Bank offered by Menahem Begin.

Undoubtedly, if President Carter has truly made these statements, they will inevitably harm the efforts that are being exerted at present to reach a just, comprehensive solution of the Middle East crisis. Furthermore, they will encourage Israel to continue its aggressive policy of impeding all efforts to end the crisis.

It was in the light of this that the Egyptian foreign minister summoned the U.S. ambassador in Cairo and conveyed to him Egypt's extreme concern over these statements. The Egyptian minister asked the American ambassador to supply him with the full text of the statements made by the U.S. President, which were published yesterday by the New York TIMES. [as heard].

The U.S. White House spokesman has denied that there was any change in the U.S. policy toward the Middle East. He pointed out that he has not read the statements as published in the American paper and attributed to President Carter on the Middle East question.

The White House denial does not mean that what was attributed to President Carter is not true, for the White House spokesman pointed out that he has not yet seen the statements attributed to the American President. This means that President Carter's recent statements on the question of the Palestinian state could be true and could be false.

However, it is very clear now that neither the statements made by President Carter nor those made by anyone else will liberate the occupied Arab territories and force the Jews to withdraw from these territories. For thousands of years the Jews have been renowned for their meanness, wickedness and treachery. The best proof of this can be found in the Koran.

Since the Jews have procrastinated in carrying out the will of God, who dictated that they support a truth which they sought to conceal, how can they be expected to obey the orders of Carter or anyone else asking them to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories? This is at a time when the nation which is in the right is passing through a stage of weakness and division that forced it to beg for its usurped rights, when it was hoped that it could wrest these rights by force in the battles of fighting and martyrdom.

KING KHALID LEAVES FOR GENEVA FOR MEDICAL TESTS

JN3008OOY Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 30 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 30 April--His Exalted Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Riyadh for Geneva at 1000 today to undergo some medical tests.

UAE INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN290922Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0904 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 29 April--UAE Interior Minister Shaykh Mubarak ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan arrived in Riyadh this morning on an official visit to the kingdom that will last several days. The invitation was extended by His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who met his guest at the airport.

Meets With King Khalid

JN291825Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1528 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 29 April--At 1730 today His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at Al-Ma'dhar Palace His Highness Shaykh Mubarak ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan, UAE minister of the interior, and the delegation accompanying him. The UAE delegation is currently visiting the kingdom. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, interior minister; Dr Rashad Far'awn, adviser to his majesty the king; and Shaykh Muhammad Mansur ar-Ramih, Saudi ambassador to the UAE.

The UAE minister arrived in Riyadh this morning on an official visit of several days to the kingdom at the invitation of His Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Comments on Talks

JN011645Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Jidda, 1 May--His Highness Shaykh Mubarak ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan, UAE minister of interior, has stated that during his talks with Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, he sensed total readiness on the part of Saudi Arabia to use all its resources and expertise to contribute to building and developing the police and security force in the UAE.

In an exclusive statement to SNA today, his highness said that his meeting with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the interest shown by his majesty in everything which serves the fraternal bonds between the two countries came as a confirmation of and support for the good results of these discussions.

Shaykh Mubarak said that the results of his discussions with His Highness Prince Nayif were positive and constructive, and serve the cause of cooperation between the kingdom and the UAE in the police and security field, thus safeguarding the stability and security of the entire region. His Highness Shaykh Mubarak affirmed that security in the area is indivisible and insuring it is a common responsibility.

Speaking about security in the UAE, his highness said that the UAE attaches special importance to border security.

PDRY

PRIME MINISTER HASANI VISITS NORTH KOREA, VIETNAM

For reportage on the visit to North Korea of a delegation led by Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani, see the DPRK section of the 28 April issue of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

For Vietnamese media reportage on Prime Minister Hasani's visit to Vietnam, see the Vietnam section of the 1 May and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

YAR

SAN'A' REPORTS CARTER CABLE TO AL-GHASHMI

JN291553Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces has received the following cable from U.S. President Jimmy Carter:

His Excellency Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the YAR and commander in chief of the armed forces, San'a':

On behalf of the U.S. Government and people, I send you the warmest congratulations on your election as YAR president and commander in chief of the armed forces by the People's Constituent Assembly. I pray that God will grant you prudence and strength in leading the Yemeni people toward development and stability. I also hope that the forthcoming period will witness (?stronger) relations between our two countries.

[Signed] Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America

Al-Ghashmi Reply

JN291555Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces has sent the following cable of thanks to U.S. President Carter:

His Excellency Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, Washington:

Allow me, Mr President, to express to you and to the people of the United States my great appreciation and thanks for the cable of congratulations you sent me on the occasion of my election by the People's Constituent Assembly as president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces. I also send you my sincere wishes for the continued health, happiness and prosperity of the friendly U.S. people. I am fully confident that in the future relations between our two countries will witness great progress in achieving our mutual interests. With my best regards.

[Signed] Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander in chief

KAMIL RECEIVES CLARIFICATIONS ON CARTER INTERVIEW

NC011255Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts asked to meet Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil this afternoon. The meeting began at 1300 at the Foreign Ministry and lasted 30 minutes.

Foreign Minister Kamil stated later that the U.S. ambassador conveyed to him official assurances from the U.S. Government that the statements attributed to President Carter do not mean a change in the U.S. position which was outlined in the statement issued by the White House following President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Washington.

The foreign minister added that the U.S. ambassador stressed to him that the United States does not consider Begin's plan for the West Bank and Gaza a suitable basis for a settlement because it does not provide an opportunity for the Palestinian people to take part in determining their future.

Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil concluded his statement by saying that the Egyptian Government will study the U.S. clarifications and assurances, and following this study it will decide whether they are sufficient.

Voice of Arabs Comment

LD011500Y Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Muhammad ad-Dali commentary]

[Text] The statements in the New York TIMES [as heard] attributed to U.S. President Carter naturally cause anxiety among observers who want to see the ship of peace arrive safely at its destination. As soon as these statements were published a number of questions came to mind: Were these statements actually made by the U.S. President? Were any attempts made to distort or (?change) them by some news agencies and newspapers? Such things have happened before and therefore could have happened this time. If President Carter actually did make the statements, do they express his viewpoint on the crisis and on the method of solving it? If so, does not the gist of these statements contradict what President Carter said in Aswan? Are these statements and their timing meant to create a suitable atmosphere for Menahem Begin's visit and his talks with President Carter and to give Begin the opportunity to make a positive move in the direction of peace if such a move is possible?

These questions and many more came to mind immediately upon reading these statements attributed to the U.S. President. It was necessary that we not jump to conclusions, and therefore it was natural that Cairo should prefer to wait for the full text of the statement to express concern and to ask the U.S. Government to stick to its commitment to the principles which have been internationally recognized in regard to the Middle East problem. Egypt also affirmed its rejection of Menahem Begin's plan, which aims at maintaining Israeli control over the West Bank and Gaza. It is natural that Cairo should stress its unchanging and declared attitude on the bases of the settlement, even before it received the full text of these statements or the U.S. Government's explanation about these statements, because Egypt's stand is firm, continuing and well-known to all. It is not subject to interpretation or alterations. Whatever the circumstances, Egypt's firm and declared stand, which was reaffirmed to the U.S. ambassador, is based on the following facts:

1. Solving the Middle East problem demands that Israel withdraw completely from all the occupied Arab territories and that the Palestinian people be allowed to exercise their legitimate rights--first of all their right to self-determination. At the same time, it should remain clear to all those who are working for peace that the Palestinian problem is the crux of the Middle East issue, and without a solution to it there will be no peace or stability.

2. Egypt rejects Begin's plan aimed at maintaining Israel's control over the West Bank and Gaza under the name of self-rule or any other names; this plan reflects the expansionist intentions of the Israeli Government and contradicts all international agreements and resolutions. What Egypt is saying and reaffirming is not new. At the same time, Egypt demands that the United States remain committed to those principles which have been approved by the international community.

Thus it is evident that Cairo did not wish to pass a hasty judgment but only to reaffirm its stand on the bases of the settlement, as this stand is principled, firm and continuing. And yesterday a statement was issued by a White House official spokesman denying any change in U.S. policy in the Middle East. The White House official spokesman said there had been a misunderstanding.

Perhaps the statement of the White House official spokesman answered some of the questions we raised at the beginning, but we still need a further, more convincing explanation. And we cannot be convinced except through conduct and practice.

Cairo Radio on Interview

NC0116O2Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Faqzi Surur commentary: "Is This a Tempest in a Teapot?"]

[Text] The U.S. White House yesterday denied that there is any change in the U.S. Middle East policy. This denial followed the statements which had been attributed to U.S. President Carter published by the New York TIMES.

These statements, which were published by the U.S. paper and which were later copied from the U.S. paper by the British SUNDAY TIMES, have roused a virulent dialog and have raised big question marks in Arab and other world circles about the U.S. position on the issue of peace in the Middle East and on the efforts being exerted to establish and stabilize peace in the area on the strong foundations already declared. Various quarters have unanimously described Carter's statements as surprising because, at best, they radically conflict with all his previous statements in this respect. In light of these statements, certain moves were made to seek clarifications. These moves include yesterday's meeting between the foreign minister and the U.S. ambassador.

U.S. official reaction to the argument raised on all levels by Carter's statements came in the form of other statements made by U.S. White House spokesman (Jerry). In turn, these statements have roused still greater surprise and have quenched nobody's thirst. While justifying the reaction drawn by Carter's statements, the spokesman said he himself had not read the statements published by the New York TIMES. This runs counter to the demands of his job because the statements were made by the resident of the U.S. White House, Carter, in whose name the spokesman was supposedly speaking.

The official spokesman merely said: A misunderstanding has inevitably arisen. Meanwhile, some U.S. officials have volunteered to describe what has happened as merely a tempest in a teapot. Whether this is indeed a tempest in a teapot or a real tempest, the quarters and forces interested in really establishing a lasting, just peace in the Middle East area are fully justified in being concerned about what has been attributed to President Carter.

The justifications for concern are clear and firm, because it is unreasonable for us to remain silent over serious issues which basically affect the present and the future--not only the whole Arab future and destiny, but also the completion of the liberation and the progress and development of the Arab future.

The timing of the publication of these statements in the U.S. paper on the eve of the talks which will begin today between Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Begin seems to be, in its simplest form, bad. As far as the concept of this timing is concerned, it provides Begin with a golden opportunity to continue his acts of sabotage against peace, international legitimacy, Arab liberation, the Palestinian people's cause, the resolutions passed by the United Nations to settle the issue of peace and the growing world support for the just Arab viewpoint.

Some quarters might have deferred revealing their position until the official text of the Carter statements to the New York TIMES correspondent is issued. However, these and many other quarters find nothing to prevent them from pointing out once again how they view the sound Arab concept of the settlement of the Middle East issue or from reaffirming their firm opposition to the totally unacceptable Israeli plans and views because these views are built on the desire to dominate others and to expand and settle in their territories.

Peace, Israel style, cannot see the light of day because it carries the seeds of its own death in view of these mines which Begin and his extremist group are planting in the Middle East.

Upon his arrival in New York yesterday afternoon, Begin found no statement to make other than to say that Israel must always be prepared, as long as it has enemies. The sole and simple interpretation of such statements by Begin and his Zionist ministers is that more mines are being planted on the road to any discussions aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East and restoring the usurped rights to their legitimate owners.

Furthermore, Begin's statement tends to completely blow up the achievement of any positive, tangible results on the path to peace. As usual, we must expect that maneuvers and deviousness will be the influential factors at these talks, which may be stillborn.

However, so that no one will be caught up in the imaginary tempest in the teapot, there is something which cannot be clearer or more firmly entrenched.

This is summed up in the following five points: the Palestine question is the core of the Middle East issue; the Begin plan, which is aimed at maintaining Israeli control over the West Bank and Gaza, is categorically rejected; Begin's plan completely reflects his government's expansionist ambitions, which violate all international covenants and resolutions; the solution of the issue requires Israel's total withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in the June 1967 war and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, and first of all their right to determine their own fate; and it is imperative for the United States to adhere to the principles which have been approved by the international community.

This has been a reminder to Washington because Begin is going there after he has shattered the opportunities for peace in the Middle East.

Further Cairo Radio Comment

NC0120000Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 May 78 NC

["We and the World" program: "What Is the Meaning of Carter's Statements?", introduced by Ibrahim Wahbi]

[Text] We want to believe that the statements made recently by U.S. President Jimmy Carter--which have been seen as a change in the declared U.S. position--are what the U.S. White House spokesman has called a misunderstanding or a misuse of expressions in tactics, not in strategy.

Even if these statements were meant to relfect a change in method only, this action also has an adverse effect on the Arab states and on Egypt's position specifically. This is so because Egypt appreciates frankness, the precise definition of positions and the denunciation of ambiguity and of the return to a play on words.

Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 is still suffering from misinterpretations and from the confusion between the two expressions "withdrawal from Arab territories" and "withdrawal from the Arab territories."

It is true that the latest Carter statements are open to various interpretations, specifically Carter's saying: "I do not believe that a lasting settlement of the Middle East problem will permit the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank." This statement, which President Carter has made to the New York TIMES, might signify that the state he views will be linked to Jordan--and this has been the U.S. position.

However, if what is meant is the fulfillment of Begin's wish that this state be connected with Israel, then Carter has indeed changed his position. At any rate, it is not up to us to guess the position while we are waiting for the text. Nor will peripheral battles, such as the congressional battle over the planes or what is being said about hidden battles between the United States and Israel, distract us from the desire to know the actual content of the U.S. statements and whether they represent a tactical change, a strategic change, a misunderstanding, or a misuse of expressions. This is so because these peripheral battles influence the Arab position which moves in accordance with the international changes in light of the dictates of Arab interests, although the Arab position will not budge an inch from its objective represented in what we announced during the October war and during the peace initiatives.

We declare this position now and we will always declare it. This position which is being declared on all occasions consists of the following: 1) the Palestine question is the essence of the Middle East problem; 2) the Palestinian people's right to determine their own fate; 3) total and comprehensive withdrawal from the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan to the 1967 borders; 4) Israel's present position completely unveils its intentions.

We also recall what the United States declared previously, which was included in the Aswan statement issued following the meeting held between President Carter and President as-Sadat. This declaration calls for the Palestinians' participation in determining their own fate and for the total withdrawal from the territories which were occupied in 1967.

Nevertheless, we believe that the U.S. position will become clear in the wake of the talks with Menahem Begin. Then, it will also become clear whether President Carter will tell Begin the very same thing he told him previously. The situation will become clear within the next few days. It is imperative for us to wait and see.

AL-AHRAM Comment

NC020708Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2320 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 May--Tuesday's Cairo papers devote their attention to the important speech which President Anwar as-Sadat will deliver tomorrow. The papers also highlight Egyptian reaction to U.S. President Carter's recent statements published by the New York TIMES.

AL-AHRAM comments on U.S. President Carter's recent statements on the Middle East crisis. It says that these statements do not conform with the principles approved by the world community and are inconsistent with the essence of the stands which President Carter himself had previously announced.

The paper adds: At such moments we tell the U.S. Government officials that the first thing they must be well aware of is that Egypt's peace initiative cannot under any circumstances become an initiative for squandering rights and firm stands.

In conclusion, the paper says: Egypt knows its path toward solving its national question very well. We still hope that the U.S. President will understand the reality of Egypt's firm stand before the peace opportunity is lost.

AS-SADAT CABLES CARTER, TORRIJOS ON PANAMA AGREEMENT

NC011445Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 May--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent a cable of congratulations to U.S. President Jimmy Carter on the occasion of Congress' ratification of the second Panama Canal agreement. The text of the cable follows:

On the occasion of the U.S. Congress' ratification of the second Panama Canal agreement, it gives me pleasure to send your excellency, the American people, and the U.S. Government sincere congratulations. On this occasion I would also like to affirm that the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt will always bless any fruitful and constructive international cooperation aimed at achieving economic progress, security and stability for mankind.

I pray that God will support our joint efforts to contribute to the hopes and aspirations of the peoples who champion right, justice and peace. Please accept, my dear friend, my best wishes to you and your family for good health and happiness and to the friendly people of the United States of America for everlasting glory.

On this occasion President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat also sent the following cable of congratulation to the president of the Republic of Panama, Omar Torrijos:

On the occasion of the ratification of the second Panama Canal agreement it gives me pleasure to send your excellency and the friendly people of Panama sincere congratulations, reaffirming the support of the Arab Republic of Egypt for your people in their just causes. Faithful to its traditions and appreciative of the enormity of its responsibilities, Egypt is doing its best to strengthen international cooperation for the progress and prosperity of all the peoples of the world. My best wishes to you for good health and happiness and for continued prosperity and progress for the friendly people of Panama.

AS-SADAT TO RESUME VISITS TO GOVERNORATES IN JUNE

NC2907492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH today reports that President Anwar as-Sadat will resume his visits to the Egyptian governorates in June. The paper says that the president will begin this tour by visiting the canal area. President as-Sadat regards this as one of the most important areas, whose people must be compensated for the years of evacuation. He will then visit all governorates in lower Egypt.

The paper adds that on this tour President as-Sadat will inspect all food security and industrialization projects.

OCTOBER MAGAZINE EDITOR ON INTERNAL SITUATION

NC3010592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 30 April--Anis Mansur, chief editor of OCTOBER magazine, deals today with the domestic conditions through which Egypt is currently passing, the crises which the Egyptian people are suffering and the role of Prime Minister Mamduh Salim's government in easing and solving these crises.

He said that President Anwar as-Sadat's peace initiative aimed at solving the Middle East problem peacefully since a military solution had overburdened Egyptian life, killed Egyptian youths and made Egypt feed its guns instead of its children, buy tanks instead of buses and build trenches instead of hospitals.

He noted in this respect the economic difficulties Egypt is experiencing and said that Egypt is not alone in suffering from population growth. We can tackle this by expanding land reclamation, just as many peoples in the world have done.

Anis Mansur added that the problems facing Mamduh Salim's government can easily be rectified and altered because Egypt is still at the beginning of its democratic practice, and is not disgraced by its mistakes. It is natural to make mistakes and correct them.

Anis Mansur dealt with Egypt's democratic life and its four parties. He said that there can be other parties as long as they comply with the parties law.

He criticized the way the parties express themselves in the People's Assembly and in the press. He noted that some members of the People's Assembly have been missing sessions. He said that the assembly could not help the state in reducing violations in various state establishments and described this as a black mark in the democratic practice of all parties in the People's Assembly.

He criticized the style of opposition of the newspapers AL-AHRAR and AL-AHALI and said that the former opposes for the sake of opposition and defamation, while the latter follows a violent course in casting doubts on all sides that nothing is true and no one is honest.

Anis Mansur affirmed that President Anwar as-Sadat will not keep silent over any mistakes made in Egypt. He said that the president will personally intervene to correct the course of the policy and the economy through the people and through democracy so that the incorrect application of democracy would not become the reason for destroying it.

AL-AHALI: OPPOSITION DEMANDS RIGHT TO OPPOSE

LD0118 45Y Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 26 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "An Opposition That Does Not Oppose"]

[Text] What does the party of the government want? Day and night we hear implicit and explicit threats that democracy is a gift which the government bestows upon whomever it wishes and withholds from whomever it wishes at any time it likes. This is because the government has discovered that the opposition is in fact opposing. It also discovered that the opposition publishes views and facts that do not please the ministers and are omitted from the ruling party's official publications and "national" newspapers.

When the government party was alone in the field everything was permissible for it; it indulged in abuse, falsifications and altercations. This, of course, was not "an exploitation of the atmosphere of freedom and democracy."

When the opposition gained the right to oppose and to speak to the people once a week, despite all the obstacles that only the faithful can endure, the officials started shouting "Stop the agents." This is because everyone who opposes seriously is bound to be a Soviet agent, or at least an "Iraqi, Syrian, Algerian, Yemeni, Libyan, or Palestinian" agent.

But those who support these officials cannot be U.S. or Israeli agents.

The officials then devised a new theory that says that the right to oppose should be restricted only to domestic matters because foreign issues are a sacred "national" matter. They cited Israel as an example, but such a useless example refutes their own allegations.

There have been four Israeli parties that supported President as-Sadat's views during his visit to Jerusalem but no one accused them of being Egyptian agents. Recently some 45,000 Israelis--or the equivalent of half a million Egyptians--demonstrated without anybody accusing them of implementing a subversive foreign plan, even though Israel is in a state of war.

The officials say that anybody who differs from the government is hostile to Egypt. Of course, Egypt is not the government's centrist party. Egypt was never the government of any party in the past and will not be so in the future.

The most that Louis XIV of France claimed was: "I am the state." But he did not claim that he was France as the Egyptian centrist party is claiming that it is Egypt.

Domestic policy cannot be isolated from foreign policy; each is an extension and reflection of the other. Agreement or disagreement on whatever concerns Egypt at home and abroad is the essence of democracy and freedom. This is not a gift from anybody. The centrist party may own and exploit everything, but there is certainly no doubt that we will never be an opposition that does not oppose, and we insist on all the rights of opposition and on carrying out the opposition duties in full.

SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE TO VISIT 7 MAY

NC0108591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 May--The newspaper AL-AHRAM today reports that Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre will arrive in Alexandria on 7 May on a visit during which he will meet with President Anwar as-Sadat.

ROSE AL-YUSUF: TITO TO VISIT 'IN NEXT FEW MONTHS'

NC2908591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--In its edition to be published Monday, the magazine ROSE AL-YUSUF reports that Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito will visit Egypt in the next few months and will meet with President Anwar as-Sadat in Alexandria.

KAMIL ACCEPTS INVITATION TO VISIT FINLAND

NC3014041 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1223 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 30 April--Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil has accepted an official invitation to visit Finland. The invitation was conveyed to him by the Finnish ambassador in Cairo today.

In a statement to MENA, the ambassador affirmed his country's support for UN Security Council Resolution 242 on the Middle East and Resolution 425 on Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

He said his country supports the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state and mutual respect among the countries in the area.

The Finnish ambassador in Cairo also affirmed that his country is eager to consolidate its relations with Egypt in various fields.

He said that Egyptian Economy Minister Dr Hamid as-Sayih will visit Finland on 14 May as part of the strengthening of economic relations between Egypt and Finland.

POLISH TRADE TALKS BEGIN IN CAIRO

NC291453Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 29 April--Discussions between a Polish trade delegation now visiting Cairo under the leadership of Domestic Trade Deputy Minister Albin Kostrzewski and representatives of the public and private sectors in Egypt to conclude contracts for the export of nontraditional Egyptian products valued at $5 million in free currency began at the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce in Cairo today.

STUDIES ON DISARMAMENT TO BE PRESENTED TO UNGA

NC191055Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--The newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM today reports that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has prepared several studies and research projects on disarmament to be presented during the UN General Assembly session which begins on 23 May to discuss disarmament.

The paper says that these studies deal primarily with strategic arms and keeping the Middle East free of nuclear weapons.

The paper adds that there will be important contacts in the next few days between Egypt and the nonalined states for adopting a unified stand at the UN session. The Egyptian delegation to this session will be led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil.

NUCLEAR SCIENCE CONFERENCE ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS

NC261400Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 26 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 April--In its recommendations today the conference on nuclear applied science, which was organized by the Egyptian nuclear science association in cooperation with the atomic energy authority, called on the world's advanced states to work for the nonproliferation of all types of nuclear weapons. The conference also called on these states to prevent the production of the neutron bomb, which is a weapon for mass killing. The conference recommended that the Middle East should be free of nuclear weapons.

Concluding its sessions today, the conference recommended that the Arab states coordinate their plans and programs toward a unified strategy in the field of long-term utilization of energy, including nuclear energy, and direct the manpower and material resources in the Arab countries to serve these programs.

The conference, which was attended by 500 scientists and researchers from various scientific research organizations and centers in Egypt, supported the state's plan to establish nuclear power stations as being more economical and better preservers of the environment than other, traditional methods, which failed to meet the country's energy needs.

The conference also recommended that a comprehensive national program be drawn up for energy research in general and nonconventional energy research in particular, such as nuclear and solar energy. It also recommended intensive prospecting and production of uranium and promotion of applied research in fields which serve development plans.

DPA REPORTS LARGE FIRE IN EGYPTIAN OILFIELD

NC291452Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1440 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--The Cairo paper AKHBAR AL-YAWM today reports that an Egyptian military fire brigade, assisted by 10 air force helicopters, has brought under control a huge fire which had broken out in Egypt's largest oilfield along the Red Sea.

The fire, which broke out on Thursday evening, extended to various storage tankers near Ra's Shuqayr on the west bank of the Red Sea, where the largest Egyptian oil-producing wells are located. These are the fields of Murjan, Ramadan and July.

The fact that the fire was an important one can be ascertained by the fact that Egyptian Oil and Industry Minister Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal personally supervised the putting out of the fire.

Two workers were taken to the hospital suffering from severe burns.

PASSENGERS INJURED IN TRAIN COLLISION

NC292133Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Apr 78 NC

[Text] This morning, two metro hulwan trains collided on the Hulwan-Bab al-Luq line in the area of the Al-Ma'adi barracks.

Representatives of the South Cairo prosecution office have gone to the scene of the incident to investigate.

About 150 passengers sustained various injuries in the collision. A total of 73 were removed to Al-Mabarrah hospital in Al-Ma'adi, where 63 of them were given first aid treatment. Ten passengers were detained in the hospital in serious condition. The remainder were taken to Qasr al-'Ayni hospital and Dar as-Salam hospital where they are being given the necessary treatment.

The prosecution is continuing its investigation into the incident.

ATH-THAWRAH COMMENTS ON OIL-PRICING SYSTEM

LD281514Y Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 25 Apr 78 LD

[Muhammad Hijazi article: "At-ta'if Conference and the Complete Oil-Pricing System"]

[Text] According to reports, the unofficial meeting of OPEC oil ministers will take place in At-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia on 6 May. It was previously decided at Geneva to postpone the meeting from April to May.

As is evident from statements by some oil officials, the At-Ta'if conference will be devoted to working out a new, long-term strategy through which OPEC can carry out its activities without complications. Other topics will be discussed at OPEC's forthcoming official conference in Lagos in June.

The OPEC secretariat has declared that the conference will not have an agenda and that all the members will attend the meeting.

Agencies have reported that although the conference has no agenda, observers expect the oil ministers to discuss the effects of the slide in the dollar's value and the need to find a substitute for it as the currency for oil pricing, as well as the question of adjusting petromeum prices in order to preserve the oil revenues' purchasing power, which has dropped substantially. This is because of the fact that, as Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim stated, the actual price of oil is now equivalent to $4.85 per barrel as compared with its currently designated price of $12.70 as the result of no less than a 160 percent increase in the price of goods imported by OPEC countries from 1974 to the end of 1977.

Therefore, OPEC's new long-term strategy, which the At-Ta'if conference will discuss, must provide for a complete pricing system, including the following:

--Adjustment of oil prices within short periods of time (6 months, for example);

--Linking oil prices to the prices of a large number of services and manufactured goods which OPEC imports from the major oil-consuming countries, as well as to the average price of oil substitutes which, in 1974, reached $23 for the equivalent of one barrel of oil;

--Scheduling oil production with a view to striking an accurate balance between supply and demand;

--Replacing the U.S. dollar with an accounting unit based on a basket of other currencies that would preserve the purchasing power of the oil revenues;

--Payment for oil in one of several major currencies to be determined in accordance with the wishes of the exporting countries.

Therefore, there are several "baskets" proposed for discussion as a substitute for the dollar in pricing oil. These are:

--Special Drawing Rights [SDR] based on [a composite of] the currencies of 16 leading industrial states. But the shortcoming of the SDR is that the U.S. dollar has the lion's share since it represents 35 percent of it. The oil prices which were fixed in January 1977 according to the SDR had increased by a little over 1 percent in March 1978. Had OPEC used the SDR in 1975 it would have lost large amounts of money because its decision came on the eve of a new rise in the dollar rate;

--The "Geneva" basket which consists of 11 major currencies, not including the dollar. The risk in adopting this basket lies in the possibility that the dollar rate might rise again;

--The "OPEC dollar" basket which was proposed by UAE Oil Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah and which consists of the following:

1. 70 percent made up of major world currencies, including the dollar (representing 10.5 percent of the total of the basket), the franc, the mark, and the Swiss franc;

2. 20 percent of it based on the currencies of the Arab member-countries of OPEC and consisting of the Saudi riyal, the Kuwaiti dinar, and the UAE dirham;

3. 10 percent to be calculated on the basis of the price of gold.

Substituting for the dollar with any other currency or a basket of currencies is only one of the solutions, but the basic problem will remain, namely the inequality of international relations and the extortionist attitude of capitalist industrial states toward the establishment of a new world economic order.

INFORMATION MINISTER MEETS WITH SPANISH OFFICIAL

JN272129Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 27 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Madrid, 27 April--Iraqi Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi met this evening with Spanish Minister of the Presidency Otero. During the meeting they discussed cooperation in the information field between Iraq and Spain. They agreed to sign two agreements in the field of radio and television when the Spanish delegation visits Baghdad at a later date.

IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT MA'RUF ARRIVES IN MADRID

JN281538Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1457 GMT 28 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Madrid, 28 April--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf arrived here this afternoon at the head of an Iraqi delegation on a 3-day official visit to Spain.

Ma'ruf expressed his happiness at visiting Spain. In a statement to the press following his arrival, Ma'ruf stated that he will convey the greetings of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, the political command and the Iraqi people to King Juan Carlos and the friendly Spanish people. These greetings, he said, are coupled with best wishes for the progress of Spain and its people. He further stated that he is confident that the talks he will have with Spanish officials during his visit will contribute to strengthening existing relations between the two countries and to consolidating the links between them.

Holds Talks

JN290857Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Madrid 29 April--Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf met last night with Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez. During the meeting, they discussed the development of relations between Iraq and Spain in the political, economic, cultural and information fields. They also reviewed the situation in the Arab area and exchanged viewpoints regarding international issues of common interest.

During the meeting, the Spanish prime minister declared his country's firm support for the Palestinian issue, Arab rights and other fateful Arab issues.

The INA mission accompanying the Iraqi delegation reports that there was a coincidence of views on the various issues discussed at the meeting.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi and Spanish sides have resumed their official talks in the Foreign Ministry building. The Iraqi side is headed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik Yasin, while the Spanish side is headed by Miguel Solano, under secretary of the Spanish Foreign Affairs Ministry. The two sides have agreed to form two subcommittees to discuss economic and cultural cooperation.

The two sides reviewed their countries' stands on issues of common interest, including the situation in the Arab region and the Horn of Africa, the results of the Belgrade Conference for European Cooperation and Security [words indistinct].

Leaves for Cuba

JN301412Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Madrid, 30 April--Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, Iraqi vice president, left Madrid for Cuba at noon today at the end of a 3-day visit to Spain. Ma'ruf's visit to Cuba is part of a tour during which he will also visit Mauritania and Malta.

In a press statement, Ma'ruf expressed his happiness with the results of his talks with Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez and other Spanish officials. He stated that the talks dealt with political, economic, and cultural topics and will serve mutual objectives. He also stated that other areas of cooperation will be developed in the future between Spain and Iraq. He also expressed Iraq's appreciation for Spain's firm position toward the Arab nation.

Joint Statement Issued

For Spanish media reportage on the visit to Madrid of Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, and a Baghdad INA report on the joint statement issued following the visit, see the Spain section of the 1 May issue of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

VICE PRESIDENT MA'RUF BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA

For Havana reportage on the activities in Cuba of Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, see the Cuba section of the 1 May Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH SPANISH COUNTERPART

JN291051Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Madrid, 29 April--The Iraqi foreign minister, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, met here today with Marcelino Oreja, Spanish minister of foreign affairs.

During their meeting, they discussed relations between Iraq and Spain in various political and economic fields. They also reviewed the situation in the Arab area.

In a statement following the meeting, Hammadi said that he exchanged views with the Spanish minister on issues of concern to the two countries, particularly developments in the Arab region and Iraq's views on the situation in Africa and the western Sahara. He added that the Spanish side explained Spain's relations with the Arab world and developments in its relations with Europe, the countries of the third world and the nonalined countries. He pointed out that they also discussed the results of the Belgrade Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

It is noteworthy that Dr Hammadi is visiting Spain with the Iraqi delegation accompanying Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf.

IRAQI, SPANISH OFFICIALS CONCLUDE TALKS IN MADRID

JN291820Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 29 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpt] Madrid, 29 April--The Iraqi-Spanish official talks between the foreign under secretaries of the two countries concluded here today. The Iraqi side at the talks was headed by 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the Spanish side by Miguel Solano, under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed reports from the subcommittees. An INA correspondent reports that agreement has been reached on the formula of a joint statement scheduled to be issued tomorrow evening, Sunday, on the visit to Spain by the Iraqi delegation led by Vice President Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf.

'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin said in a statement to the INA correspondent [words indistinct] understanding and concern to strengthen Iraqi-Spanish relations in the talks between them. He said that views were close or identical in all fields.

Meanwhile the INA correspondent said that the meetings between the Iraqi delegation and Spanish officials were focused on laying down strong foundations for the continued development of relations in the political, economic, cultural, technical and information fields. The Spanish side expressed a readiness and desire to develop joint cooperation with Iraq in particular, and the Arab nation in general.

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN EDUCATION OFFICIAL'S VISIT--Baghdad, 28 April--Ivan Iliev, under secretary in the Bulgarian Ministry of Higher Education, and his accompanying delegation, left Baghdad today after a 1-week visit to Iraq. Mr Iliev held talks with officials in the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and the Ministry of Planning, and also met with officials of the General Union of Peasant Societies. The talks dealt with the promotion of cooperation between the two countries and the training of Iraqis in the fields of agriculture, planning and scientific research. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 28 Apr 78 JN]

AL-AKHBAR COMMENTS ON 'U.S. PRESIDENT'S RETREAT'

JN011035Y Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 1 May 78 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "The Meaning of the U.S. Retreat"]

[Text] There were reports the day before yesterday on the U.S. President's retreat before the Zionist pressure and his agreement on separating the sale of planes to Israel from the proposed sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. This comes in spite of the fact that the planes to be given to Israel are more sophisticated and greater in number than the total that would be sold to the two Arab countries, which are considered friends of the United States.

There were reports yesterday about another, more serious retreat by the United States, that is, the return to Begin's plan, which is called the self-rule plan, and the refusal of what Israel refuses regarding the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination, a right enjoyed by the rest of the people on earth.

In fact, the seriousness of the U.S. stand does not stem from the adoption of such a stand by the United States, because every country has the right to pursue the political line it wants. The seriousness does not lie in the United States' adoption of the Israeli stand, for the United States has always adopted Israeli stands and even supplied it with the funds, arms and political support necessary to enable it to continue its aggression, defiance, occupation and settlement in the occupied Arab lands.

The real seriousness of the U.S. stand lies in the continued Arab compliance with the U.S. stand despite the detriment of this to the Arabs and to their primary cause. Whatever the nature of the Zionist influence in the United States, Arab economic and political steps counter to the Zionist pressure will definitely eliminate Zionist pressure, not in the United States alone, but in the whole world.

Rejection of any alternatives to the UN resolutions and an emphasis that these are the minimum that the Arabs can accept; political action in the entire world arena, not only within the framework of pleasing this or that power; the use of Arab funds in the banks of the United States; serious armament from any side; stopping Arab disintegration which is the main reasonfor our weakness; and the consideration of peace and war with Israel from a pan-Arab and not a regional stand--all this is the least that could be done to balance the Zionist pressure on the U.S. administration to make it think twice before harming us by supporting Israel or considering our territory as a usable card in the balances of internal U.S. policy.

JOURNALIST CALLS FOR UN FORCES ON JORDANIAN BORDERS

LD011937Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 27 Apr 78 p 9 LD

[Doyen of Jordanian journalists Rakan al-Majali article: "We Demand UN Forces on Jordanian Borders"]

[Excerpts] A very difficult question currently faces the Arabs: What does it mean to have UN forces on the Lebanese, Syrian and Egyptian borders and, on the other hand, to keep a single front, the Jordanian front, exposed to the enemy with no UN forces to protect it or sufficient weapons and military capabilities to shoulder the burden of steadfastness and confrontation.

Jordan is the poorest in the belt of poverty around Israel. There is a big question mark over Arab aid, and the sources of armament in the absence of financial resources are not available to Jordan.

Today, Jordan has to choose between two things: either to ask for UN forces or to convince the Arabs to support its front.

The idea of stationing UN forces in southern Lebanon has been under serious consideration for several years, as these forces were needed to protect the area from Israeli occupation. Today the UN forces in Lebanon are an umbrella for occupation and, at the same time, they are an Arab and international demand.

It is a fact that the East Bank of Jordan is a basic objective in the plans of world Zionism. If we recall the history of the Zionist movement, we find that the early attempts to establish the Jewish state aimed at establishing it on the East Bank of Jordan or eastern Palestine and discussed this matter in all the annual conferences of world Zionism.

The history of the Zionist movement has witnessed a conflict over the question of whether to settle the Jews on the eastern or western bank of the river. This dispute was resolved at the 12th Zionist Congress in Czechoslovakia during the period 1-14 September 1921. The launching of [Jewish] immigration to western Palestine while preserving the "Land of Israel" in eastern Palestine was declared at this conference.

Zionist ambitions in Transjordan need no proof, for Zionism raised a storm against Britain when it approved the establishment of the Emirate of Transjordan. A statement was issued by the Jewish Agency calling the establishment of the state of Transjordan without the approval of the Jewish people a violation of international law.

It is known that those who study the Zionist movement divide it into three stages: The Herzel stage; the Jabotinsky stage which led to the idea of building a Jewish state on both banks of the Jordan River; and the Ben Gurion stage.

Menahem Begin, Jabotinsky's pupil and successor, was one of those who strongly opposed the establishment of the Jewish state without including Transjordan in it from the first moment in accordance with Jabotinsky's principles which were confirmed at every Jewish Agency conference.

Begin remained one of the strongest defenders of the idea of building a Jewish homeland on the East Bank even before the West Bank. When discussions on the partitioning of Palestine were going on at the United Nations in 1947, Begin, on behalf of the "Irgun" organization, submitted a memo which said: "The land of Israel cannot and should not be divided but rather should be reunited. Transjordan is an indivisible part of our motherland. Britain, under the guise of granting it independence, has turned this part of our country into another British colony."

Thus, Begin has come to power while embracing the Irgun's principle of the need to occupy Transjordan.

It is no longer a secret that Zionism's next step would be to occupy the East Bank of Jordan. And since the East Bank today is the only exposed front, its occupation is not only possible but also seems part of the plot.

We demand UN forces or UN protection for the East Bank. In addition to being just, this demand is the only realistic step.

Arab psychological, political, economic and social conditions do not give rise to any hope for victory; nor, as we see the situation, does it give rise to any hope for defense.

The incursion of the Israeli forces into southern Lebanon could be repeated on the East Bank of Jordan.

The balance of power is not in our favor. This is a fact. A still more important fact is that Israel will remain militarily superior until 1983 even if the United States stops supplying it with the arms it requires. Israel is superior in arms, not only to Jordan, but also to all the Arab fronts, including the Egyptian and Syrian fronts.

The request for UN forces is realistic, and the protection of Jordan is a protection of the first Arab defense line.

Jordan's strategic position--the Jordan Valley and the chain of mountains that separate Israel from the desert--is the only strategic defense line, because beyond it lies the desert in which armies cannot make a stand.

The fall of the Jordanian front would mean that Israel would move to the Euphrates border in Iraq and to the border of the oil wells in Saudi Arabia and the gulf. This is Israel's primary objective, which is in accord with the prophesies of Genesis and of the Zionist ambitions.

Israel, which, according to U.S. experts, has sufficient strength and nuclear power and also absolute U.S. and Western support, keeps harping on its security. When a few days ago the United States proposed the idea of building a U.S. base in Sinai and another in Haifa, Israel said this was not enough. What is enough for Israeli security? We don't know. Israel calls its army the "Israeli Defense Force" and speaks about the security problem. Therefore, it is natural for Israel to pretend fear of the Arabs in order to achieve offensive gains in the name of defense.

Our sad situation makes it incumbent upon us to worry about our security and to ask for the protection of our territories, particularly since there is not a minimum of trust or actual cooperation between the Arab parties. Apart from words, enthusiastic speeches and slogans of solidarity, the fact of Arab reality is that every country is resporsible for itself and stands alone in the face of aggression. This situation may be due to circumstances and conditions, but, nevertheless, it is the reality.

Jordan is the target of an occupation conspiracy and, therefore, we demand UN forces.

This bitter demand is an indication of the state of weakness and humility which the nation has reached. When we ask that Jordan be protected, we are asking for the protection of the Arabs. We are also asking for what has been given to other Arabs. We want to overcome this stage, the stage of collapse.

All that we are asking for is that arms be provided to us so that we can defend our borders. But since this seems to be a distant dream, we must choose between UN forces to protect our borders and actual occupation.

BEIRUT RADIO: CABINET FORMATION MAY TAKE TIME

NC011146Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Text] At 1000 today President Ilyas Sarkis received Prime Minister-Designate Dr Salim al-Huss. They discussed the formation of the new cabinet. President Sarkis and Prime Minister-Designate al-Huss reviewed the results of meetings held at the temporary headquarters of the Chamber of Deputies in Mansur Palace yesterday morning. It is clear from the nature of the meetings that the most significant points of discussion are the following:

1. The formation of a cabinet capable of shouldering the burdens of the present delicate stage, taking into consideration the political forces in Lebanon, and capable of achieving an internal cohesion that will help find solutions to the major problems this cabinet will face.

2. The formation of a cabinet that, because of the abilities of its members, will command broad parliamentary and popular support. During the consultations deputies made statements confirming the need for this and asking that the door be left open to specialists both from within the Chamber of Deputies and from outside it.

3. Preparing the atmosphere so that the new cabinet can benefit from calm conditions in the security sphere and from political relaxation, in order to establish firm foundations that will not be exposed to setbacks in the future. As the political forces have indicated during the consultations, this means that changes on the local, Arab and international levels must be understood and action must be taken in response to any new developments.

These points seem to indicate that the formation of the cabinet will not take place quickly. The cabinet will be formed within the context of the above considerations, and it is most important that it not be formed too quickly, in order to avoid complications and obstacles.

MENA Comments

NC301237Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 30 April--The formation of a new Lebanese government is facing a number of difficulties which appeared during the consultations conducted by Prime Minister-Designate Dr Salim al-Huss. However, Dr al-Huss has said that he is eager to eliminate these difficulties and to declare the formation of a cabinet as soon as possible, in order to avoid a crisis.

The consultations held by Dr al-Huss concentrated on a number of points dealing with the composition of the government. These included: whether it will be an enlarged or a small government, from within the parliament or mixed; the bases of the cabinet program; and the possibility of specific quarters joining the government apart from the demands of political blocs and deputies.

The obstacles which became apparent during the consultations were due to the eagerness of each group to secure its representation in the government and its share of the ministerial posts, particularly the sensitive portfolios.

The sources following the efforts to form a government say that many of these obstacles can be removed, but the major problem is the attitude of Camille Sham'un, who boycotted the parliamentary consultations and disappeared, according to the press, from all the places he could be reached.

Sham'un insists on the composition of a government of leaders and on assuming the post of defense minister; or on a government a little broader than 12 ministers, provided that the post of defense minister be assigned to one of his representatives. Many other deputies want the Defense Ministry. Zgharta Deputy Tony Franjiyah, the son of former President Sulayman Franjiyah, is one, and there are others, like Col Gaby Lahhud and Michel al-Murr.

The importance of this post at this particular time is that the new defense minister will supervise the rebuilding of the Lebanese army. This is a sensitive and critical task in which some quarters are eager to have a role, while other quarters want the Defense Ministry to be assigned to a strong person capable of building a balanced national army, as called for in the Chamber of Deputies recommendation.

According to some sources, Sham'un's stand is countered by Dr al-Huss' determination to rule out the composition of a government of leaders and to oppose cooperation with "Lebanon's amirs." Al-Huss fears that they would destroy the government at any time and would exploit the proposed conciliation plans for their own interests.

Efforts are being made to mediate with Sham'un to change his stand through contacts being undertaken by Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, leader of the Phalangist Party and an ally of Sham'un in the Lebanese Front.

Sources close to Dr Salim al-Huss say that he is inclined to assign the main ministerial posts--such as those of defense and foreign affairs--or those allowing limited party practices, such as the interior, education, public works and information ministries, to nonparty and nonideological persons.

The other question is the participation in the government of the Nationalist Movement. The movement wants another ministerial post in addition to that for Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, while other quarters oppose this on the basis that the movement is not represented in the Chamber of Deputies. Another inclination calls for the nationalist party to be represented by sympathizers of the party, not by its members.

Dr al-Huss is eager to have his government represent all leanings outside and within the Chamber of Deputies.

Dr al-Huss resumed his second round of consultations today. Last night he briefed President Sarkis on the outcome of his first consultations and assessed the results with him, in the light of which the new government will be formed.

Sham'un Statement

NC301306Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] In a statement to the Voice of Lebanon correspondent today, former President Camille Sham'un denied that he set specific conditions or demanded the post of defense minister as a condition for the participation of the National Liberal Party in the new government.

Asked about Prime Minister-Designate al-Huss' explanation that his visit to the mufti was a private call, Sham'un said: An excuse can always be given. Anyone can believe or disbelieve the excuse. On my part, I was not convinced. This does not mean that I was against the visit. Al-Huss is a free man.

It would have been better if he had either visited the leaders of all communities or none at all. I stress the need for emergence from the whirlpool. We should either turn toward secularism or set up sectarian statelets.

Sham'un concluded by saying that he does not expect a new government to be formed today.

PHALANGIST LEADER AL-JUMAYYIL RETURNS FROM DAMASCUS

NC011717Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 1 May 78 NC

[Excerpt] Phalangist leader Pierre al-Jumayyil and the Phalangist Party delegation consisting of Dr Antoine al-'Arbaji, Joseph al-Hashim and Joseph Abu Khalil, which accompanied him to Damascus, returned to Beirut at 1800 today.

The Phalangist leader said that his discussions with President al-Asad and Syrian officials were fruitful, successful and useful, manifesting complete cooperation. He affirmed that relations between Syria and the Phalangist Party have been strengthened by today's 8-hour discussions. Al-Jumayyil further said that the discussions dealt with practical matters, including the formation of a high-level Syrian-Phalangist coordination committee, preparation for a summit conference between presidents al-Asad and Sarkis and finding a practical solution to the problem of the evacuees in general, and the inhabitants of Ad-Damur in particular.

The meeting between President al-Asad and the Phalangist leader and the delegation accompanying him lasted about 4 hours. A general assessment was made of the relations between the two countries in general, and Syria and the Phalangist Party in particular. The discussions were frank, positive and practical.

FRENCH UN FORCES KILL TWO IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

LD011556Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] A skirmish in southern Lebanon occurred between the blue helmets and an armed group which was trying to infiltrate the zone evacuated by the Israelis in the region of Tyre. This skirmish took place last night. Two members of this group, which probably was part of the Palestinian forces, were killed. The French blue helmets made the customary (?challenge). It was at that moment that the Palestinians opened fire in the direction of the UN positions. Therefore, the blue helmets returned the fire, killing two and wounding one. There were no victims from the UN forces.

INA REPORTS CLASHES BETWEEN DETERRENT FORCES, PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE

JN021652Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 2 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 2 May--The Syrian deterrent forces clashed with the Palestinian resistance forces in the old quarter of Sidon this evening.

The INA correspondent said that an isolated incident has developed into a violent clash between the two sides in which machineguns and RPG rockets are being used. The clash resulted in the wounding of two Palestinian resistance fighters and two soldiers of the deterrent forces. The clash was still going on as of 1900 today.

LEBANESE PHALANGIST LEADER RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT

JN011435Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 78 JN

[Text] At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, Lebanese Phalangist Party leader, and Dr Antoine Mu'arbash, Joseph al-Hashim and Joseph Abu Khalil, members of the Phalangist Political Bureau. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received in his office at 1100 today Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khalil.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam made a statement to journalists following his meeting with Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. He said: It is natural for meetings to take place periodically between us and our friends in Lebanon, foremost of whom is Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. He added: We reviewed all issues of common interest in Lebanon.

When asked about the topics discussed at the meeting, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: We discussed everything that concerns Lebanon and Syria in a positive and fraternal spirit; our viewpoints were in agreement regarding all topics of discussion.

He was then asked if the topics discussed will help restore normal life to Lebanon. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam replied: Naturally, we are all working with determination to remove Lebanon from the ordeal it is experiencing. I think that our brothers in Lebanon will survive this ordeal. Khaddam said: This concerns the Lebanese and we are for whatever strengthens the independence, sovereignty and territorial unity of Lebanon, as well as with whatever consolidates its legitimate authority. We are also for everything which consolidates the Cairo and Riyadh summit conferences.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Damascus at 1000 today. He was received at the Syrian-Lebanese border by Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs, and a number of protocol officials from the Republican Palace.

In a statement to journalists, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil expressed his pleasure at visiting Damascus and affirmed the importance of the continued relations of fraternity and cooperation between the two sister countries. He then praised Syria's position under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad on all the events taking place in Lebanon.

Asked his opinion on what recently took place with regard to political accord in Lebanon, Shaykh al-Jumayyil said that what has been accomplished is a large and positive step which we hope will be followed by others which may eventually benefit and unite Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil expressed the hope that a new Lebanese cabinet will soon be formed so it can assume its great responsibilities.

Returns to Beirut

JN011705Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Pierre al-Jumayyil, leader of the Lebanese Phalangist Party, and the delegation accompanying him left Damascus for Beirut this afternoon. The delegation was seen off a the Lebanese-Syrian border post by Adib Milhim, minister of state for presidential affairs.

SYRIA CELEBRATES LABOR DAY WITH SPEECH RALLY

JN011809Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] The Syrian working class today celebrated 1 May, international Labor Day. The Syrian Confederation of Trade Unions held a big speech rally before noon today in the Confederation's building under the patronage of comrade leader Hafiz al-Asad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the Republic. President as-Asad delegated Comrade 'Abdallah al-'Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party, to attend the speech rally. The celebrations were also attended by Mahmud Hadid, speaker of the People's Assembly; Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party; comrade members of the party's regional and national commands; ministers; members of the Central Command of the Progressive Nationalist Front; leaders of popular organizations; ambassadors of sister Arab countries and friendly foreign countries; and huge masses of brother workers.

Comrade 'Abdallah al-'Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and representative of his excellency the president, delivered a speech at the rally in which he conveyed President al-Asad's greetings on the occasion of 1 May.

Comrade al-Ahmar stressed that the celebrations by the working class in our country exemplify the continuous work to achieve development and demonstrate the continuing struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights. Comrade al-Ahmar added: Our working class has reaffirmed its leading role in our people's struggle against colonialism and the forces of exploitation. Our working class stands in the front lines today and is struggling under difficult circumstances to achieve Arab unity and build a unified Arab socialist society. The difficult circumstances are created by the fact that our people are facing Israeli aggression and world Zionism. The latest, but not the last, act of aggression was the barbaric invasion of southern Lebanon.

This aggression, represented by the invasion of southern Lebanon by the forces of injustice and aggression, reaffirms to the whole world the expansionist aims of this aggression and its current attempt to liquidate the sons of our Palestinian and Lebanese people and to make them evacuate their lands. Through this aggression the enemy also aims at drawing our forces into battle, the time and place of which will be determined by him, so as to implement his expansionist objectives.

Our Arab masses will continue the struggle until victory is achieved, the occupied Arab territories liberated and the Palestinian people's national and legitimate rights are guaranteed--particularly their right to return, to exercise self-determination and to establish an independent state on their homeland.

Our country has efficiently shouldered its pan-Arab responsibilities in the defense of Lebanon's unity and Arabism against the dirty conspiracy to which our people there are being exposed. Today our country continues to extend a loyal hand to the legitimate authorities and to all the loyal sons of Lebanon to enable them to consolidate their country's unity, achieve progress and development for their sons, entrench security and stability, and crush the tools of (?capitulation) and sectarianism as well as to end the monopoly [of political power by the Christians]. The day will come when Lebanon will assume its national and pan-Arab responsibilities in the defense of its existence and that of the Arab nation against the invaders and the aggressors.

Comrade al-Ahmar then spoke about the current Arab situation, the results of As-Sadat's visit and his course of capitulation. Comrade al-Ahmar stated that these days, and within the present context which requires a firm confrontation against the will of capitulation and defeat, we notice the beginning of wide-scale activities and movements which are directed toward a good cause but which will yield bad results. Talk is increasing about Arab solidarity and about efforts to close ranks and unify the Arab voice under the slogan of convening a summit conference to be attended by As-Sadat. This is being done as if nothing has happened. Comrade al-Ahmar stressed that such a conference cannot be convened at present because it is impossible for persons who are doing their best to mobilize Arab potential against the enemy to meet with As-Sadat who is still pursuing his course of capitulation with the enemy. It is necessary to stress here that Syria has always been in the forefront of those who work for Arab solidarity. We in Syria have always wanted to mobilize all Arab potential with the aim of liberating our territories, regaining our rights and achieving victory over our enemy. The Arab solidarity which we know and can understand is that which unifies the potential of the Arab nation and employs this potential in the service of our pan-Arab battle against the Zionist enemy.

Comrade al-Ahmar further stated: Any stand seeking to ratify what As-Sadat has committed against the Arab nation cannot be considered a stand for Arab solidarity. Such a position should be termed Arab defeatism and not solidarity with those who joined the enemy ranks. Comrade al-Ahmar stressed that Syria, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, party secretary general and president of the Republic, declared its opposition to and condemnation of As-Sadat's course at the very time As-Sadat announced his intention to adopt a course of capitulation and defeat. Syria announced its rejection of and opposition to that course and stated its determination to resist and foil it, while continuing efforts with the sons of the whole Arab nation to confront such a course, to oppose the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat conspiracies and to continue the struggle until the occupied Arab territories are liberated and the Palestinian Arab people regain their legitimate rights.

Our pan-Arab front for confrontation and steadfastness must develop its methods and increase its effectiveness so as to become the focus for the hopes of the masses who believe in their cause and who are determined to struggle until victory. The Palestinian cause will remain the central cause in our pan-Arab struggle; it will remain the crux of our struggle with our enemies. Our party and Syria will continue to fully support the just Palestinian struggle and will continue to defend the Palestinian struggle to regain Palestine and the occupied Arab territories.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES SWEDISH COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER

JN301954Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Apr 78 JN

[Text] At 1430 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Bo Turesson, Swedish minister of communications. The meeting was attended by Dr Salim Yasin, minister of transport, and Jean Jacques Von Dardel, Swedish ambassador in Damascus. The discussion revolved around cooperation between Syria and Sweden in various areas, particularly in that of transport and communications.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

LD300058Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 29 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] "The 1978 spring session of the National Popular Assembly was officially opened this afternoon with a message from the president of the republic on the state of the nation."

The president of the republic was welcomed at the assembly hall by Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, executive secretary of the party apparatus, the leaders of the mass organizations and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algiers. After a brief welcome and the playing of the national anthem, the president of the republic spoke.

"First, he outlined the stage Algeria is passing through at present. He said: The period we are living in, more exactly, 1978, is no doubt a decisive one for the future of our country, our people and our revolution. Having striven for a full 10 years to set up the democratic institutions of a socialist state, we crowned this effort with the election of the National Popular Assembly a year ago. Now, the president of the republic said, we are involved in the decisive process of renewing and strengthening the FLN party--the moving force of our revolution. The major event of our contemporary history, the FLN congress, he said, will decide on the application of the principles of the national charter. The congress will also deal with the leading institutions of the party and their method of working for adaptation to the new stage and objectives, while relying on a program of action for the coming years.

"Already, President Boumediene added, the mass organizations which are at one and the same time the political (?outgrowth) of and pool for militants of the FLN have held or will soon hold their own congresses. In regard to this he stressed that the question is how to give a dynamic impetus to the life of these organizations in conformity with our present tasks, on the one hand, and to form teams of leaders and close-ranked battalions of militants who are engaged (?as a team) in the implementation of the national charter, on the other. To the extent that this primary objective has been and will be attained we shall be able to see in it the best guarantee of the success of the party's congress as well as considerable qualitative progress in our revolution. Thus, President Boumedine said, the year 1978 will mark another decisive turning point in the field of political institutions.

"In addition, he added, this is a decisive year from the point of view of development policy. It is, in fact, devoted at one and the same time to a stocktaking of the second 4-year plan and the preparation of the third plan, the main outlines of which will be democratically laid down by the party congress. This outline will be based on the provisions of the national charter and will take into consideration the results of the recent census which is, the president said, a very important contributary source of information for the planner.

"This year, the president said, has thus given us and shall give us many opportunities to talk about the party and the mass organizations, the work of the government and the administration, the functioning of the people's assemblies and local communities, the progress of the enterprises in the implementation of the socialist management of enterprises; in short, to draw up the balance sheets, to clarify the orientations and to fix the objective.

"Therefore, the president said, it is intentional that today's message deals with only some aspects of the country's life, of Algeria at work.

"Having recalled the first message to the National Popular Assembly [words indistinct] the president of the republic made some very pertinent and accurate observations and reflections on the country's economic, social and political situation, and also on Algeria's foreign policy and the principles which have guided it, are still guiding it and shall guide it in conformity with the national charter.

"The correct management and production methods for an independent national economy, the fight against negative, bureaucratic and (?wrong) attitudes, management and democratic centralism, the working out or updating of legal provisions which in particular can protect and insure the rights of the workers; in short, the preservation and strengthening of the revolution's attainments at every level and in every field were the central themes of a large part of the president's message. He stressed that the point is not only to glorify the revolution in speeches or slogans, but to live it in a concrete manner by daily conforming to its principles.

"Regarding foreign policy, President Boumediene recalled Algeria's principled position concerning the fight of peoples for self-determination and independence, and Algeria's devotion to peace and security and the introduction of a new international economic order. In this respect, the president quoted the national charter, which states that Algeria hopes for peace and wants to develop relations of friendship based on respect for the sovereignty of all, on noninterference in internal affairs, and on the balance of interests. The principles which guide domestic policy also direct every aspect of Algeria's foreign policy."

Discusses Foreign Policy

LD301405Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Speaking on foreign policy at the spring session of the National Popular Assembly, President Boumediene reiterated Algeria's adherence to the principles of nonalinement and the just causes in the world, particularly the causes of the Palestinian and Saharan peoples, whose national territories have been usurped.

After speaking of the suspicious moves that are taking place in the Arab world, which are all directed at the entrenchment of the idea of a natural imperialist presence in the area, President Boumediene asserted that once Cairo admits its deviation and departure from the Arab ranks, nothing will stop a collective Arab move. Furthermore, once the legitimate rights of the Saharan people to self-determination have been recognized, nothing will prevent the resumption of normal relations with Morocco and Mauritania.

As to Algeria's relations with France, Brother President Houari Boumediene affirmed Algeria's constant readiness to discuss all matters and to improve and develop these relations as soon as political issues and questions of security resulting from French military presence in these parts of the Arab Maghreb have been settled. In this regard he said that no negotiations can make any serious progress if a foreign threat exists in this part of Africa and the Arab world.

GDR MINISTER OF DEFENSE LEADS MILITARY DELEGATION TO ALGERIA

LD012044Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] The GDR minister of defense today began a visit to our country at the head of a large military delegation. He was greeted by Mr Bencherif, member of the Council of the Revolution and minister of irrigation, land development and environmental protection.

RHODESIAN ANC LEADER BEGINS 3-DAY VISIT

LD012038Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Council [ANC], has arrived in Algiers. He intends to have talks with Algerian leaders, mainly, he said, on the support given to his cause. He also said he hopes to contact the representatives of the Palestinian resistance movements, Saharan leaders and representatives of the Canary Islands liberation movement. Mr Oliver Tambo is making a 3-day visit to Algeria.

LIBYA

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

LD292110Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 29 April--Dr Manuel Pinto Da Costa, president of Sao Tome and Principe, arrived in Tripoli this evening on a 3-day official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah. He made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he expressed pleasure at visiting the Jamahiriyah, pointing out that the visit will help further strengthen the good relations between the Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, in the legitimate struggle against imperialism.

He said that he will take the opportunity of his stay in the Jamahiriyah to discuss with Libyan officials a number of international issues, particularly those of interest to the peoples of the African Continent.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD301710Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Apr 78 LD

[Summary] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, today received Manuel Da Costa, president of Sao Tome and Principe. They discussed matters of common interest to the two sister countries.

Jallud Banquet Speech

LD011046Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 1 May--Yesterday evening Brother 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud gave a dinner banquet at the guest palace in Tripoli in honor of Dr Manuel Da Costa, president of Sao Tome and Principe, who is now visiting the Jamahiriyah.

Brother Jallud delivered a speech at the banquet. He said: The Libyan Arab people's relations with Sao Tome and Principe are not new, nor did they start when Dr Da Costa became president. Our relations date back to the days when Dr Da Costa was only the leader of the Sao Tome and Principe liberation movement. This proves the cultural role the Libyan people played after the Great 1 September Revolution.

We in the Jamahiriyah, he said, do not act out of concern for any material interests. We are governed by our principles, which include helping the countries fighting for freedom and peace. Our standards might differ from those of all other peoples. Perhaps that is why they differ from those of all peoples and all countries which are influenced by the size of their population.

We in the Jamahiriyah have done away with this way of thinking; we are guided by ethical and spiritual values. We act from a new philosophy and a cultural rebirth which heralds glory to all peoples and support for the weak.

Many small peoples in the world have suffered from imperialism, but the world paid no attention to them just because they were small in size or population. Our people in the Jamahiriyah reject this way of thinking.

Our people, Jallud said, sincerely support the liberation movements in Africa. They support the Angolan liberation movement for the establishment of a progressive regime in its territory. Our people also support the people of Sao Tome and Principe in the establishment of a progressive regime. Our people stand by many peoples and countries of the Atlantic and Indian oceans, such as the people of the Maldives, the Comoro Islands and Sao Tome and Principe. Jallud affirmed the unlimited support of the people of the Jamahiriyah for the people of Sao Tome and Principe under the leadership of Dr Da Costa. He also expressed the Jamahiriyah's complete readiness to cooperate with the friendly people of Sao Tome and Principe in all fields to enable them to overcome the problems facing them in their quest to build their country and join the ranks of the advanced peoples.

Jallud said that a serious imperialist maneuver was being carried out by France against the people of Chad in the form of open military intervention. He said: We hold France and those who imparted a legitimate character to its military presence responsible for the new tension in Chad, which is due to France's unlawful interference in the internal affairs of this African country. He added that military forces and Jaguar planes were brought in to increase tension after the Chadian people were close to solving their domestic problems.

France and the United States, he said, were pinned down in the jungles of Vietnam and could not extricate themselves easily, but only with great difficulty. This is because the will of the struggling people of Vietnam is stronger than imperialism and its agents. Finally the people triumphed and succeeded in determining their own fate.

In conclusion, Jallud said that imperialism will be routed and that the African peoples will triumph in the end because Africa today is not the Africa of the 1940's and 1950's.

Dr Da Costa also spoke. He praised the help the Jamahiriyah offered and the unlimited support of the Libyan Arab people for the struggle of Sao Tome and Principe against imperialism. He stressed the need for the African people to stand by the Arab peoples, particularly the Palestinian Arab people, in the struggle against racist Zionism, and by the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and the Sahara.

FROLINAT LEADER DENIES VIOLATING SABHA AGREEMENT

LD281324Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpt] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received a cable from Mr Goukouni, leader of the Chadian National Liberation Front [FROLINAT], saying: We deny the lies which say that FROLINAT forces are proceeding with their equipment to the capital of Chad, Ndjamena, and that they have violated the agreement reached at the meetings in Sabha and Benghazi. FROLINAT underlines the provisions of the agreement of Sabha and Benghazi and is awaiting implementation of the main clause of the agreement, namely, the arrival of the military commission which will supervise the implementation of the agreement reached between us and the government of Chad. We are prepared to render every assistance to enable the military commission to carry out its duties in accordance with the agreement reached in the Jamahiriyah.

BEGIN INTERVIEWED ON U.S. VISIT, DAYAN'S TALKS

TA012025Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 May 78 TA

[Interview with Prime Minister Menahem Begin by Dan Shilon on the plane from New York to Washington on 1 May--videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, a few weeks ago you left Washington with what appeared a heavy heart. How do you feel today on your return to Washington?

[Answer] I did not leave with a heavy heart then. I said that the talks were hard, and I think I fulfilled my duty as the representative of Israel. However, these visits are totally different. This time I have come to take part in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of our independence. This is the objective of the visit. The president as well as the secretary of state invited me for a talk. I accepted the invitation willingly, and the talks will be held today. Therefore, no comparison should be drawn between these two visits. Then the goal was meeting with the administration, while now the real objective is to meet with the Jewish community that is celebrating the 30th jubilee.

[Question] Do you, in view of the report you received from Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan yesterday, have some answers to the questions Dayan was asked here last week?

[Answer] Yes, I received a detailed report. I think that regarding certain questions, discussion should be held and government decision should be made. This is what I think. This will be clarified in the talks. If we can say something substantive on the spot, I will willingly do so. However, the authority of the government should be kept. This is how the foreign minister acted and this is how I will act.

[Question] In your opinion, do these questions mean that there is a possibility that different decisions may be taken by the government with regard to its basic policy?

[Answer] No. The basis is our peace plan. The intention is a positive and desired intention, I think, to talk this time about the essence, about the substance and contents. This is not simple--it is being clarified. Therefore, it does not constitute a substantive change but a change in procedures. These procedures are very important though. We will continue the clarification of this question today.

[Question] Are there, as Dayan reported, signs of a thaw in Israeli-U.S. relations?

[Answer] The atmosphere during his talks was good. There were very serious and thorough clarifications on both sides. Mr Dayan indeed emphasized that the government will be called on to make decisions on certain subjects.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH CARTER, VANCE REPORTED

TA020646Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 May 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Let us first go to Los Angeles, where the prime minister is now making the central speech at a massive rally to mark Israel's 30th anniversary. Approximately 12,000 Jews are taking part in the rally. Our correspondent Eli Nissan accompanied the prime minister on his journey to the West. [begin recording]

The prime minister flew from Washington to Los Angeles aboard a special Israel air force aircraft. He was accompanied by a large entourage of both Israeli and U.S. correspondents who have been covering the entire tour in the United States. During the flight, Mr Begin talked with representatives of the Israeli press, and pointed out the following issues: There has been a marked improvement in the atmosphere of the relations between Israel and the United States. The atmosphere is this time totally different from that which prevailed during the prime minister's visit in March. Sources in the prime minister's entourage say that the change in the atmosphere is not incidental, and that it seems to have resulted from a high-level decision. Mr Begin stated that there were no traps during his talk with the president. The pleasant atmosphere was genuine and sincere, and found its expression in President Carter's speech on the White House lawn. The prime minister stated that it was a morally significant speech.

On the plane, Mr Begin sounded very optimistic. He later said that a breakthrough in the political negotiations is to be expected in the near future. In his opinion, the talks held by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan last week have contributed to this change in atmosphere.

Israel does not intend to change its peace plan, but it comes with new ideas. Within a few weeks, the government will convene to deal with matters that, in Mr Begin's opinion, may be termed significant.

At the end of the political meeting with President Carter, Mr Begin met with him again for a tete-a-tete that lasted approximately a quarter of an hour. The president said some important things during that talk, Mr Begin said, however, I regret that I cannot quote them.

The prime minister said that his preliminary talk with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was also sincere and straightforward. "We have clarified things, and promised each other answers," the prime minister said. For the time being the prime minister refused to elaborate on the nature of the questions and of the requested answers. However, it was gathered from his words that the political clarifications with the United States have now taken a new direction the essence of which is a discussion of the contents of peace, rather than mere formulas. [end recording]

Eli Nissan reported from Los Angeles.

Activities in U.S. Reported

TA020656Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 May 78 TA

[Excerpt] In Washington, Prime Minister Begin met with President Carter and Secretary of State Vance. Our reporter says that the arms package was not brought up in the discussion. However, our reporter adds that presidential adviser Zbignew Brzezinski attempted to convince Jewish leaders to stop their campaign against the arms package.

Following the prime minister's meeting, a reception was held at the White House in honor of Israel's 30th anniversary. President Carter promised that the United States would continue to be committed to Israel's security, not just for 30 years, but forever. He added that in spite of the differences, the United States would never waiver in its absolute commitment to Israel. Carter also announced that he would appoint a presidential commission to make recommendations for a federal memorial to honor the 6 million Jews killed in World War II.

In response, Prime Minister Begin called Carter's pledge "one of the greatest ever made to Israel's security." The reception was attended by 500 U.S. Jewish leaders.

DAYAN RETURNS HOME, DISCUSSES POLITICAL ISSUES

TA011419Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan expects political moves to be resumed in the next few weeks. Minister Dayan has returned to Israel from his talks in Washington. He told our political correspondent Shalom Qital that Egypt will be the only party with whom a discussion on Judaea and Samaria will be held. He emphasized that for the time being the declaration of principles and the interpretations of Resolution 242 are not being dealt with. First we want to reach an understanding with Egypt about the foundations for the peace agreement. The declaration of principles can be added later.

As for the prime minister's talks in the United States, the foreign minister said that, in his opinion, there is a readiness in Washington to hold substantial discussions with Mr Begin.

Further Report on Remarks

TA011700Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 1 May 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] Our political correspondent Yosi La'or reports on the foreign minister's talk on his return from the United States. [begin recording]

[Dayan] The situation at the moment is that we want to reach with the Egyptians--through U.S. mediation--an understanding on the elements of the peace settlement rather than on a formulation of principles. When we reach an understanding on the elements--I'm not talking about the ultimate settlement but the elements on the basis of which the negotiations for peace can be conducted--then the declaration of principles will be added to them and will, naturally, also conform with what has been agreed upon. [end recording]

Israel is now interested in factual negotiations. The foreign minister was asked why the Egyptians are ready now to abandon the declaration of principles. [begin recording]

[Dayan] I think that the Egyptians also think that the declaration of principles is not the end of the road. Hence, there is no reason why they should oppose the idea that we should now deal with the rest of the road. They have never been of the opinion that the declaration of principles would be the end of the clarifications. The question was whether to continue solely with the clarification of the declaration of principles or whether further steps could be undertaken. We presented our peace plan to the Egyptians--both the peace plan that pertains to Egypt and the one pertaining to Judaea and Samaria. The question was, and still is--we still do not have an Egyptian response--whether they are ready to discuss the second part: the peace plan itself. [end recording]

The foreign minister was asked whether Israel is now proposing negotiations with Egypt over Judaea and Samaria. Dayan's answer was yes, we raised this subject in the declaration of principles. However, are practical negotiations with Egypt over the eastern front now anticipated? [begin recording]

[Dayan] Yes, I began my answer with yes. I'm saying this primarily because the only Arab conversation partners we have today are the Egyptians. Secondly, and this is nothing new, in the declaration of principles--when we were discussing it with the Egyptians--these principles pertained first and foremost to the subject of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District, and in the agreed upon agenda, the clause following after the declaration of principles concerns the guidelines for a settlement in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. [end recording]

The foreign minister said at the airport that he had encountered a cordial attitude in Washington and that he assumes that the prime minister will be able, if he wishes, to talk with President Carter and with Secretary Vance on political issues. Was any progress made in the political issues? Were the positions made clear? For example, the U.S. position regarding the IDF presence in Judaea and Samaria beyond the 5 years? [begin recording]

[Dayan] I think yes. During the talks we broached several issues--and this was one of them--and we could hear the U.S. reactions. From the reactions we perceived, I think we were able to enlighten ourselves more than before the talks. [end recording]

When asked what the U.S. position on this issue and other subjects is, the foreign minister refused to answer. I will first brief the cabinet. Mr Dayan will, apparently go to London before the forthcoming cabinet meeting, and thus the report will be made tomorrow to Deputy Prime Minister Professor Yadin, who will present it to the members of the cabinet on Sunday.

HA'AREZ DISCUSSES LIBERAL PARTY INTERNAL SPLIT

TA010751Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 30 Apr 78 p 11 TA

[Amnon Barzilay commentary]

[Excerpts] "As-Sadat will not overthrow Begin. Simha Ehrlich can overthrow him because of bad Finance Ministry policy." This was said recently by a senior member in the Liberal Party who is known to be close to Ehrlich and who follows the economic policy of the government with fear and anxiety. This anxiety has been felt recently among the major Liberal Party activists, who are preparing for a period of unprecedented internal party struggles.

The nervousness among the liberals was given expression in the public criticism leveled by Deputy Finance Minister Yehezqel Flumin at Ehrlich and at the agreement signed between the finance minister and the Histadrut. This criticism has had important results, not only in the economic-government sphere. The criticism by Flumin, the technocrat who advanced up the party ladder thanks to his professional rather than to his political qualifications, was interpreted as an act of rebellion against Ehrlich's rule over the party. Whether he wanted this or not Flumin accelerated processes within his party which, until recently, proceeded calmly.

The center of these processes is the increasingly severe struggle between the two groups which have taken control of the Liberal Party and which are represented by a few energetic people: Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yizhaq Moda'i, on the one hand, and Construction Minister Gid'on Pat and MK Avraham Sharir, on the other. The struggle between these two groups is over control of the party, and indirectly over the most important position of power ever given that party--the post of finance minister.

For a few months it was possible to hear what was implied by Flumin's public remarks only in whispers of liberal ministers, Knesset members and party activists. It is not just that Ehrlich's status with the public weakened; he became weaker in his own party as well. The man who was considered almighty among the liberals was left almost without soldiers. The erosion in Ehrlich's position is gradual. The first proof of this after the Knesset election was his failure to insure the election by the party center of Moshe Nissim to be a cabinet minister. Pat and Moda'i, who were chosen as ministers together with Ehrlich, united against Ehrlich in the selection of the party candidates for minister.

The possibility that Ehrlich's policy may bring about the removal of the Likud from the government is causing a great deal of nervousness among the liberals. The method of distributing the positions of power in the Likud government insures that in the future as well the finance minister will be a member of the Liberal Party. The question is, who will attain this position? It is clear that the man who gets control of the party will also be the next finance minister. All this is based on the assumption that the Likud remains in power.

Ehrlich is aware of his difficult situation within the government and the party. He also knows that the main danger lurking for him is Yizhaq Moda'i. Naturally, Ehrlich is close to the Pat-Sharir group, which is the only group on which he can rely. This set of relations that made Ehrlich dependent on one of the power groups led to bitter arguments and mutual accusations.

In a meeting Ehrlich told the Pat-Sharir group that it is "to blame" for his being finance minister. They convinced him that "it is worthwhile for him" to accept this position. Ehrlich claimed that he wanted to become the Knesset chairman--a respectful position, but also a position that does not involve special risk-taking. These details, that were learned during a momentary outburst of anger and frustration, show one of the weaknesses of the Pat-Sharir group.

They know that the rival to Ehrlich is Yizhaq Moda'i. Gid'on Pat does not want to be a finance minister. Avraham Sharir as a freshman Knesset member prefers the parliamentary activity at this stage, especially the work within the Knesset Finance Committee. In contrast, Moda'i (a chemical engineer, economist and jurist), views himself as the most appropriate man for the position of finance minister. This is also what his growing number of supporters in the party think.

With reference to the chance of establishing a new political deployment consisting of the liberals, the DMC and the Alinement, one of the DMC heads reacted by saying that "everything depends on the liberals." This assumption, namely that the Liberal Party will sever itself from the Herut Movement, was frequently raised in talks with the party leaders. It seems that a political revolution occurred not only at the national level in the past year. Two of the leaders of the moderates among the liberals--the party chairman, Dr Rimalt, and Attorney Avramov--deserted the active political arena. [as published]

Mr Ehrlich, who is considered very moderate in his political positions, also manifests differing positions (although in the government he consistently supports Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's positions). The dovish trends prevailing among the liberals disappeared with the withdrawal of Rimalt and Avramov and the lessened influence of MK Yosef Tamir.

It is possible that the increased power of Moda'i, with his hawkish views, plays an important role in changing the political-security inclinations of the Liberal Party and in redirecting them toward the right of the political spectrum.

WEIZMAN MEETS WITH SIILASVUO, PROMISES WITHDRAWAL

TA011840Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 1 May 78 TA

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman conferred today with the coordinator of UN activities in the Middle East, Gen Ensio Siilasvuo, and repeated Israel's promise to withdraw its forces from southern Lebanon. It was agreed that the chief of staff, Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan, will meet with General Siilasvuo next week and will discuss with him the continuation of the withdrawal and the future of the Christian enclaves.

TERRORISTS WILL NOT RELEASE ISRAELI SOLDIER

TA281747Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Ahmad Jibril's terrorist group announced today in Beirut that under no circumstances would it release the captured Israeli soldier. The group's announcement stated that the terrorists would not agree to an exchange of prisoners with Israel because such a deal would in fact be recognition of the Zionist state.

WALDHEIM TO BE ASKED TO GAIN PRISONER'S RELEASE

NC301021Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Hayyim Herzog, will request an urgent meeting with UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim to demand that he work vigorously for the repatriation to Israel of Avraham 'Amram, who is being held prisoner by terrorists in Lebanon. This has been learned by our correspondent, Beni Rom. During his visit to Israel the UN secretary general promised the defense minister to deal with the matter. Contacts are being conducted through the Red Cross, but have so far produced no results.

TERRORISTS REFUSE ENTRY TO CHRISTIANS IN S. LEBANON

TA301417Y Jerusalem POST in English 30 Apr 78 p 2 TA

[Text] Marj 'Uyun--Christian village heads in the salient north of the Galilee panhandle have complained to the UN in south Lebanon that the terrorists are not allowing Christian refugees to cross the Litani River and return to their homes in the Christian population centres.

According to the village heads, the terrorists are letting only Moslem refugees return and are carrying out a policy of blatant discrimination against the Christians.

The commander of the Lebanese forces in the south, Maj Sa'ad Haddad, supported the complaint saying that since the end of the fighting and the deployment of UNIFIL in south Lebanon, only a few women have returned to the Christian villages. He claims that the UN force has failed to guarantee safe journeys along either the coastal or inland routes to the south.

Haddad and other notables in the area complained that the south was filling progressively with Shi'ite Moslems, who are arriving in private vehicles, lorries, or in buses hired by the Lebanese Government and the UN, while at the same time the terrorists are threatening the lives of the Christians trying to return to their homes in the area. A Maronite leader, Father Mansour of Kafr Killa, called the UN's programme to bring Christian refugees home to the south by sea "absurd." Father Mansour said that such an attempt would merely serve to entrench the present situation, in which the real controllers of the routes to the south are the terrorists.

According to drivers coming from Beirut, villages like At-Tayyibah, near Kibbutz Misgav Am, are filling up with Shi'ite Moslems. At-Tayyibah, which was a frontline terrorists stronghold, has been empty of inhabitants for the past 2 years. But the Nepalese UNIFIL detachment, now in control of the town, is allowing in anyone who is unarmed.

According to town and village heads, representatives of the Lebanese Government and of UN aid agencies are visiting the south, and making promises but without any sign of carrying them out. "They're going about the place like tourists," a Lebanese sergeant-major in charge of a roadblock told the Jerusalem POST. "They're doing nothing to restore normalcy themselves."

Meanwhile the tension between UNIFIL personnel and the Christian forces continues. Major Haddad claims that the UN force is trying to create an intolerable situation "in which the UN will control the area." Lebanese soldiers said that UN personnel refuse to identify themselves at various roadblocks manned by the Christians, saying that they do not recognize the authority of the Christian soldiers. Residents of the small Shi'ite village of Adaysah, near Misgav Am, told correspondents that on Friday there was a serious clash at the roadblock in the village when UN officers refused to identify themselves to the Christian soldiers manning the point. The Christians were at the point of opening fire when Christian and Israeli officers arrived at the roadblock and calmed them.

IDF MAJOR REPRIMANDED FOR MISHANDLING W. BANK INCIDENT

TA020755Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 May 78 TA

[Text] An officer with the rank of major has been reprimanded for the way in which he handled a student demonstration in Bayt Jala last month. Our reporter says that Bethlehem notables lodged a complaint with the military governor that the officer and a group of soldiers entered a classroom, locked doors, and the officer then ordered his soldiers to throw tear gas canisters. The students jumped out of the windows of the classroom.

At the time, the military spokesman denied the complaint. However, in the meantime, an investigation showed that the officer entered the school in total disregard of army regulations which forbid the entry of soldiers to schools without permission. The meaning of the reprimand is that the officer will not be eligible for promotion.

MILITARY COMMAND DENIES JORDANIAN REPORT ON W. BANK

TA011610Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 1 May 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The Judaea and Samaria command denied today the report published in Jordanian papers that the military authorities asked the Judaea and Samaria mayors to carry out a survey on the number of West Bankers living in Arab countries today. The reports in Jordan say that the aim of the survey, initiated by Israel, is to examine the possibility that these residents will be able to return to their previous places of residence in Judaea and Samaria in the future. This was totally denied.

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON KHAL'ATBARI'S MOROCCO VISIT

LD011701Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] A joint press statement was issued in Teheran and Rabat today on the official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco by Foreign Minister Mr 'Abbas 'Ali Khal'atbari.

The statement says that the two countries' foreign ministers agree on the need for further developing and strengthening cooperation in various fields between the two countries. On the commercial front, the sides affirmed the need for increasing the volume of and diversifying the goods exchanged between the two countries and for more contacts between the two countries' industrialists and chambers of commerce.

Regarding economic cooperation, the two countries' foreign ministers stressed the need for more frequent meetings of the Iranian-Moroccan joint commission, a program for studying economic projects and exploring the possibility of concluding air transport and tourism agreements.

With regard to cultural, scientific and technical cooperation, the foreign ministers decided to conclude a 2-year agreement on expanding cultural, scientific and technical exchanges. The sides will set up a commission to explore such projects.

To further develop fraternal relations between the two countries, the sides expressed their interest in increasing contacts at various levels, particularly between the representatives of the legislatures of the Empire of Iran and the Kingdom of Morocco.

AMUZEGAR RECEIVES BULGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

LD011757Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] The Bulgarian foreign trade minister met with Prime Minister Jamshid Amuzegar this evening. Matters relating to increasing the volume of commercial transactions between the two countries were discussed at the meeting.

A new trade protocol between the two countries will be signed tomorrow at the conclusion of the Bulgarian foreign trade minister's visit to Iran.

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

LD290250Y Teheran PARS in English 1114 GMT 28 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Teheran, PANA (PARS News Agency) 28 April--A trade agreement was signed between Iran and the United Arab Emirates in Teheran this afternoon. The signatories were Iranian deputy minister of commerce, Hosein Moadi, and UAE deputy minister of economics and commerce, [words indistinct]. The agreement, drawn up by the joint Iran-UAE ministerial commission, provides for the expansion of bilateral trade and the holding of trade fairs in each other's countries. It also envisages the formation of a trade subcommittee to investigate ways and means to expand commercial exchanges between Iran and the UAE. The agreement is valid for one year and is automatically renewable for a similar period.

AFGHANISTAN

AFGAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL APPOINTS CABINET

JN0213l5Y Kabul International Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 May 78 JN

[Proclamation No 2 issued at 2100 on 1 May by Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan]

[Text] At its second session held under the chairmanship of Nur Mohammed Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan unanimously elected Babrak Karmal as vice chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Revolutionary Council also elected, according to Decree No 1 of 30 April, the deputy prime ministers of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the members of the government as follows:

Babbrak Karmal	Deputy Prime Minister
Hafizollah Amin	Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister
Capt Mohammad Aslam	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Communications
Col Abdol Qader	Minister of National Defense
Dr Shah Wali	Minister of Public Health
Nur Ahmad Nur	Minister of Interior
Dastagir Panjshiri	Minister of Education
Sultan Ali Keshtmand	Minister of Planning
Soleyman La'eq	Minister of Radio and Television
Dr Saleh Mohammad Iayee	Minister of Agriculture
Dr Abdol Karim Wesa	Minister of Finance
Barek Shafe'i	Minister of Information and Culture
Abdol Hakim Shara'i	Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Dr Anahita Patebzad	Minister of Social Affairs
Abdol Qadu Ghorbandi	Minister of Commerce
Engineer Mohammad Ismail Danesh	Minister of Mines and Industries
Lt Col Mohammad Rafi	Minister of Public Works
Mohammad Mansur Hashmi	Minister of Water and Power
Pohand Mahmud Suma	Minister of Higher Education
Nezamoddin Tahzib	Minister of Tribal Affairs

KABUL RADIO REPORTS BANKS REOPEN, TRAFFIC NORMAL

LD0111S0Y Kabul International Service in German 1100 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] [Passage indistinct] Furthermore, banks and their branches in the capital reopened for business. Road traffic is again normal and all public transport is again available for the population. [Words indistinct] No fare increases on public transport or food price increases have been reported. Prices are being strictly controlled by the [word indistinct] national armed forces. (?It is reported from various parts of the country) that food is available (?in many shops and bazaars) and that no price increases have been noted. In fact, prices for a number of food items have come down. Pupils and university students and students in other educational establishments have resumed their studies in peace. Cinemas, theaters [words indistinct] and restaurants in the city have reopened.

COMMENTARY ON IMPORTANCE OF MAY DAY UNDER NEW REGIME

LD011652Y Kabul in Dari to Europe 1230 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The first of May, the day of solidarity of all the struggling workers and toilers of the world is being observed this year, for the first time, under conditions made possible by the victorious revolution of 27 April which has paved the way for the liberation of the workers and toilers of the city and village, these real (?architects) and producers of all the riches of our country, from poverty, pain and tribulation. The celebration of May Day under the fallen and deposed regime of Sardar Mohammad Daud had turned into a farcical stage production. Our workers and toilers used to be dragged, by means of trickery, fraud and the threat of force, to the trivial, formalized, deceptive and often threatening ceremonies which were staged by the ruling circles in order to praise the decadent and corrupt regime of Mohammad Daud. The regime used to struggle in this way to hide the hard life of the workers, toilers and their families [words indistinct].

Our workers were smartly aware of the fact that those staged ceremonies were merely used to prevent all forms of demonstration and the expression of the people's dissatisfaction and for crushing all movements by the wokers in the pursuit of their rights. For example, the issues of social progress and the improvement of the lives and working conditions of the toilers were never raised. The repressive and autocratic regime of Mohammad Daud created expensive [word indistinct] espionage units in order to invade the lives and liberties of all of us. With the creation and functioning of these organizations, all the political and professional rights of the workers of Afghanistan, who are the real owners of all the riches of the country, were trampled underfoot, and the hands of the internal and external plunderers were left free in order to loot the fruits of their labor. [passage omitted]

Now the Democratic Republic Government of Afghanistan will spare no effort to terminate, as soon as possible, (?the exploitation of workers) and to create better conditions for living and for work and the necessary medical services as well as extensive opportunities for the children of the toilers for a better life and work.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which has adopted as its main aim to render honest and sacrificing service to the deprived classes and the toiling individuals of the community, firmly believes that without the active and extensive participation of the workers and toilers, the task of constructing a society free of oppression and exploitation is impossible. It asks them to (?join hands) to create a democratic and prosperous society in Afghanistan by their creative and constructive work and by raising production in plants and factories, mines and development projects, farms and all other place of work while taking into consideration the current social realities of the country and to prove themselves more effective than ever.

The republican Government of Afghanistan [as heard], as its valuable message to the workers and toilers of the country, declared the first of May, the day of solidarity of the workers of the world, as a public holiday in Afghanistan. [sentence indistinct]

Long live May Day, the day of solidarity of the workers and (?toilers) of the world.

AFP CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN KABUL

OW011906Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1729 GMT 1 May 78 OW

[By Jean-Francois le Mounier]

[Text] Kabul, May 1 (AFP)--The new Afgan military government has issued no casualty figures for Thursday's coup, but a foreign doctor living here estimated the dead at a few hundred in conversation with some of the first foreigners to arrive in Kabul since the coup. The doctor said he based the estimate on contacts with local hospital personnel. Other estimates--impossible to confirm but seemingly less accurate--put the dead at more than 1,000.

Most of the victims appear to have been members of the Afgan armed forces who were either in the guard of former President Mohammad Daud or stationed at one of the two barracks that came under heaviest attack during the coup, Kharga, on the northern outskirts of Kabul, or Tape-Tadjbek, to the south of the city.

The soldiers who staged the coup were reported to be mainly members of the air force and the Pule-Shalkri Armored Division, which has its headquarters on the eastern edge of Kabul.

Non-military hospitals said they received few civilian victims of the fighting, since most of the injured were soldiers who were taken to military facilities.

The city appeared to have suffered little damage, although traces of the impact of shells, some of them large-caliber, were visible on the walls of numerous houses near the presidential palace and in other areas north and south of the city where heavy fighting occurred. Army barracks were sealed off, so it was impossible to determine their condition, but witnesses agreed that firing was intense from Thursday afternoon to Friday morning and said that rebel aviation must have caused substantial damage.

Three planes were reportedly lost in the fighting, two MIG-21s said to have been shot down and one MIG-17 that reportedly crashed. At least a dozen tanks were destroyed.

The military presence remained highly visible, several days after the coup, from the Afgan-Pakistani border post of Torkham, where this correspondent and a French diplomat entered the country at dawn yesterday, to Kabul. "Except for a Soviet official, you are the first foreigners to enter Afghanistan since the coup d'etat," the Afgan border guard said.

Along the 225-kms (145-mile) stretch of highway leading from there to Kabul, military forces were deployed in heavy strength, many troops manning Soviet-built T-54 and T-55 tanks, supervising all movement. The soldiers, armed with Kalashnikov rifles and machine guns, were carefully searching every vehicle and passenger but showed no undue edginess. Tanks were stationed at each major crossroad and outside public buildings. Some had been decked out with flowers by the population, and troops sat chatting nearby with locals.

At Djelalabad, a town of 60,000 inhabitants, many people seemed to have returned to work, and the cattle market was in full swing.

The scale of fighting became more and more apparent as this correspondent approached Kabul from the east. The barracks of the Pule-Shalkri Armoured Division was completely hidden behind a wall of tanks. Soldiers appeared more nervous and kept their fingers on the triggers of their weapons as they ordered cars to drive at walking speed.

Armoured troop carriers, batteries of anti-aircraft guns and machine gun positions surrounded the Pule-Shalkri headquarters and the national television antenna. Guns were trained on the sky as if waiting for an aerial attack.

In the town filled with troops, it appeared that fighting occurred around specific strategic objectives, and residential areas were largely spared. The presidential palace, the Interior and Justice Ministries seemed to be worst hit. Several burned-out tanks were scattered around the palace, whose clock tower was partly destroyed. The French Embassy next door had a gaping hole in the first floor, and several windows were smashed. Windows of nearby residences were also broken, not apparently by gun-fire but from shaking by low-flying fighter jets attacking the palace.

Construction sites have started up work again, but some factories were still closed. The population of the capital seemed anxious to get back to the routine they knew before the coup.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN RECOGNIZED

Bulgarian Recognition

LD011930Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has officially recognized the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. His Excellency Stoyan Radoslavov, Bulgarian ambassador in Kabul, met with Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, at (?0930) in his office today and presented him with a letter from his government which officially recognizes the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The letter expresses respect for the (?national independence) of countries and the principle of noninterference in deciding on the solutions of their internal affairs. The letter also expresses hope for the further strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation (?between the two countries).

Indian Recognition

LD011931Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] Shilendra Kumar Singh, Indian ambassador in Kabul, met with Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in his office at 1630 today and presented him with a letter from his government officially recognizing the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The letter also mentions that India has historical relations with Afghanistan, that Afghanistan and India both belong to the group of nonalined nations and that the two countries' viewpoints are very similar on many world issues. India attaches great value to [word indistinct] and close cooperation with Afghanistan. The Government of India will continue its efforts [words indistinct] and further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

KABUL REPORTS NEW GOVERNOR OF NANGARHAR PROVINCE

LD011540Y Kabul International Service in Dari 1230 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Lt Col Gholam Nabi Wasefi, who has been appointed as the Governor of Nangarhar by the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [RCDRA], took up his office yesterday. At a ceremony, the Governor of Nangarhar (?met) with the officials and people of Nangarhar province and the inhabitants of Jalalabad city. At the start of this ceremony a few verses of the Holy Koran were recited, and later the Nangarhar governor conveyed the warm and cordial greetings of the RCDRA to the audience. In a speech [words indistinct], the Nangarhar governor said: With the help of Almighty God and the sacrifice of the national armed forces of Afghanistan, the real enemies of the homeland have been eliminated. The governor ended his speech by asking for the cooperation of the officials and people in the performance of their daily affairs and said: Our joint efforts in the path of progress and development of this country is imperative and essential.

NEW MILITARY COMMANDER TAKES OFFICE IN HERAT

LD011544Y Kabul International Service in Dari 1230 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] With great enthusiasm, the people of Herat welcomed the victory of the national armed forces of Afghanistan in eliminating the remnants of the royal autocracy. At a large meeting which was held yesterday morning for the introduction of the new military commander at the provincial hall, the new military commander, after reciting a few verses from the Holy Koran, expressed his desire to serve with honesty and sincerity in the pursuit of the lofty aims of the Revolutionary Council of the national armed forces of Afghanistan. The people of Herat expressed enthusiastic welcome for the victory of the national armed forces of Afghanistan in eliminating the remnants of the royal autocrats and showed readiness for all forms of sacrifice needed to accomplish the aims of the [word indistinct] of the revolution of Afghanistan.

GHAZNI GOVERNOR TAKES UP OFFICE; DELIVERS SPEECH

LD012000Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Summary] Brigadier General (Spingol), governor and military commander of Ghazni Province, took up office in Ghazni yesterday. The governor addressed a meeting of the people of Ghazni and conveyed the warm greetings of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. He said: "In order to attain the aims of the revolution, which is based on the principles of the sacred religion of Islam, cooperation by every individual of the brave nation of Afghanistan is needed.

TEHERAN: TRIBES REPORTEDLY BEGIN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT

LD011410Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 1 May 78 LD

[Text] Five days after the coup in Afghanistan agency reports say that despite the calm prevailing in the cities, Afgan tribes have started a resistance movement against the army.

Kabul airport, which was closed following the Afgan coup, was reopened to international flights today.

BANGLADESH

INCREASE IN BURMESE MOSLEM REFUGEES REPORTED

BK011424Y Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[Excerpt] The refugee problem has taken a serious turn with the sharp rise in the influx of Burmese Moslem nationals into Bangladesh territory. Official sources say that another new camp was opened at (Nira) yesterday where 7,000 fresh arrivals were registered. Besides, another 8,000 evicted took refuge in (?four) camps, which speak of continued atrocities on Moslems in Burma.

Giving details about the worsening situation, the sources said that an average of 6,000 destitutes were crossing the border every hour yesterday, and the number of refugees shot up to 71,000 till afternoon. The local administration has mobilized all its resources and efforts to alleviate the sufferings of 10,000 destitutes who fell victim of barbarous torture before fleeing into Bangladesh.

BURMESE FORCES OPEN FIRE ON BANGLADESH REFUGEE CAMPS

BK011032Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[Text] Burmese armed forces yesterday opened fire on the refugee camps inside Bangladesh territory near the BDR [Bangladesh Rifles] border post at Gundam, an official spokesman said in Chittagong last night. The source did not say whether anyone was injured as a result of the firing.

ZIA TO HEAD SIX-PARTY POLITICAL FRONT IN UPCOMING ELECTION

BK011724Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[Text] The Jatiyatabadi Ganatantrik Dal, the National Awami Party-Bhashani Group, the United People's Party, the Bangladesh Moslem League, the Bangladesh Labor Party and the Scheduled Caste Federation at a meeting in Dacca this evening have formed a political front under the name of the Jatiyatabadi Front. The front elected Gen Ziaur Rahman as its chairman. It also nominated Gen Ziaur Rahman as the front candidate for the coming presidential election.

DELHI: OPPOSITION GROUPS DISCUSS ELECTION CANDIDATE

BK011752Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[Text] In Bangladesh, about a dozen political parties and groups are having a third round of talks in Dacca to put up an agreed candidate against President Ziaur Rahman in the coming presidential election. The discussions have been going on for the last 2 days. These political parties and groups favor a parliamentary form of government in Bangladesh.

Nomination papers will be received by the Returning Office tomorrow, and scrutiny will take place the following day. The last date for withdrawal of nomination papers has been fixed on the 7th of this month. The ban on open political movements has been withdrawn. This was officially announced in Dacca today.

INDIA

DELHI COMMENTARY WELCOMES CARTER'S DECISION ON URANIUM

BK011557Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[News commentary by R.R. Subramaniam of the Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis]

[Text] President Carter's decision to approve the license for a shipment of 7.6 tons of enriched uranium for the Tarapore Atomic Power Plant comes as a sigh of relief. Only a few days ago the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission had rejected India's application for the supply of uranium.

During his visit to India in January this year, President Carter had promised that the shipments of uranium for Tarapore would be made. By exercising his executive privilege, President Carter has done much to salvage an aspect of Indo-U.S. relations which had of late been subjected to a great deal of strain. However, it must be pointed out that Mr Carter's decision is subject to the approval of the U.S. Congress. State Department sources have said that they do not expect Congress to challenge the President's decision. It is therefore likely that the shipments of enriched uranium will arrive in India by the end of June or in early July.

Indo-American nuclear collaboration dates back to August 1963 when the agreement on the setting up of two boiling water reactor units generating 200 megawatts of electricity was set up on a turnkey basis. In December 1963, the U.S. Agency for International Development granted aid of nearly 600 million rupees for the foreign exchange portion of the project. Further, the now defunct U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, under a contract signed in 1966, agreed to supply fuel throughout the life of the station, which is about 30 years. Initially, 40 tons of enriched uranium was fed to the reactor. Although fuel elements were initially provided by the United States, further refueling operations were done on the basis of fuel fabricated in India out of enriched uranium imported from the United States. The nuclear fuel complex at Hyderabad handled the fuel fabrication work.

Since 1968, India and the United States have held divergent views on the issue of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. The Indian position has been that the treaty was discriminatory and reflected a lack of balance in the obligations of those that retain a privileged status of nuclear weapon states. One of the articles of the treaty pertains to safeguards, a mechanism to prevent clandestine diversion of nuclear fissionable materials. The Tarapore atomic power station system was under the bilateral safeguards agreement between India and the United States until 1971 when the agreement was enlarged into a trilateral system involving also the International Atomic Energy Agency. But the safeguards agreement only apply to India's collaborative arrangements. Fissionable material produced at the Tarapore power station has never been reprocessed into the weapons grade form suitable for explosive purposes. Plutonium is the fissionable material produced in commercial boiling water reactors using enriched uranium as fuel. Five kilograms of plutonium, when used in an appropriate geometry, can produce an explosion like that at Pokharan.

Last month the U.S. Senate passed a nonproliferation act which requires imposition of fullscope safeguards covering all the domestic facilities of the country if the said country wishes to import nuclear materials from the United States. The prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, while abrogating all nuclear explosions, peaceful or otherwise, has made it clear that fullscope safeguards are discriminatory, and India would not obtain enriched uranium at the cost of her self-respect.

By honoring his earlier promise, President Carter has done much to respect Mr Desai's decision not to go in for nuclear weapons. The latest shipment of 7.6 tons would only enable the Tarapore power station to function for a transitory period. The initial misunderstandings that had arisen are partially removed. Mr Desai's forthcoming visit to the United States could perhaps help in taking the issue to a more logical conclusion.

DESAI MEETS U.S., USSR, UK ENVOYS ON AFGAN SITUATION

BK281606Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Envoys of three big countries--the United States, the Soviet Union, and Britain--called on the prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, in New Delhi today. They are understood to have given Mr Desai their assessment of the developments in Afghanistan.

DELHI DENIES REPORT ON AFGAN COUP LEADER'S VISIT

BK011604Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 78 BK

[Text] A government of India spokesman today denied an agency report that Col Abdul Qadir, who led the coup [in Afghanistan], was in Delhi about 3 weeks ago for treatment. He said the report is baseless and mischievous.

PAKISTAN

AGHA SHAHI DISCUSSES KASHMIR DISPUTE AT DAKAR CONFERENCE

BK281033Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 28 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, has said that the dispute relating to the future of the people of Jammu and Kashmir has for 30 years remained central to peace and stability in South Asia. He was addressing the plenary session of the Ninth Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Dakar.

Mr Agha Shahi said the continuance of the Kashmir dispute is a serious obstacle to the goal of full normalization and the establishment of permanent peace in the area. He said the dispute must be resolved in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations which envisage a settlement based on the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Agha Shahi said the government and the people of Pakistan remain uncompromisingly committed to the stand for the restoration of the holy city of Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty. Mr Agha Shahi also touched upon the threat of nuclear proliferation, recent events in the Horn of Africa, the question of Cyprus and the plight of Moslem minorities.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN--Avtar Singh, high commissioner for India to Nigeria, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Japan in succession to Eric Gonsalves. Avtar Singh is expected to take up his assignment shortly. [Text] [Delhi ISI in English 1440 GMT 27 Apr 78 BK]

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the paper version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is $150 for any one volume and $50 for each additional volume. This includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is $100 for any one volume, $125 for two volumes, $150 for three, $200 for four, $250 for five, $300 for six, $350 for seven, and $400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. government officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly from FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Eastern Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle East & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe; VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151